

The Critic

"Serving the student voice at Lyndon State College"

Lyndonville, Vt.

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Marla's Corner: *Mowing Leaves of Grass*

**By Marla Sawyer
Critic Staff**

I strolled the University Mall last month with my 16 year old daughter, picking out school clothes and fluffy, fuzzy pillows for her room. Patiently and lovingly, as a mother should, I lingered with her in the Hell Mouth of the Mall (Hot Topic), laughing at some of the T-shirts but, for the most part, aghast at the dark screechings now feeding the imaginations of our youth. She bought pins and spikey wristbands. Finally out of there, we emerged into the sunshine of the parking lot and walked over to Barnes and Noble, where I found (on sale) a copy of Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*.

The cashier, draped in black, was wearing an iron spider around her neck which, I thought, would surely would cause her back problems in her future. (I quickly rolled that motherly thought under my tongue.) The cashier curled her electric blue nails around the binding of Walt Whitman and said softly, "I love Whitman's poetry." She, too, was an English major in college. In fact, she said, she and her roommate had spent their very last day together reading Walt Whitman aloud, crying, clinging to the beauty of the words and their precious friendship. Poetry remains forever.

The spider girl said she graduated from college a year ago. Now she has an English degree.

"Oh," I said.

When Sheila and I walked out with smiles and bags, my daughter said qui-

etly, "Maybe that girl has a teaching job waiting for her . . . maybe she just works here in the summer?"

Maybe, I said.

Ten years ago I was a non-traditional student for the first time. I was just past my mid-twenties then, raising two preschoolers alone in a trailer park. I thought a college degree would provide us with money, security, and a better life for my children. I had a plan: I'd have a PhD by 40, I would write novels and self-help books, I'd counsel the hurting, inspire the hopeless and become a legal aid lawyer. There was a graduate program in Pennsylvania where I could get a masters degree in social work and a juris doctor. Two for the price of one. I was going to do it. I could change the world and make money too. I was compelled.

I walked last weekend in the woods with my dog and Walt Whitman. Sitting alone in a remote meadow, casting glances toward the sun-dappled blackberry thicket for any shadows or movements that could be a bear, I opened *Leaves of Grass* and read,

Backward I see in my own days where I sweated through fog with linguists and contenders,

I have no mockings or arguments, I witness and wait.

Driven I was, in those days of poverty and difficulty, to assert my own worth. I felt like a lifetime of mistakes demanded proof of some value in me. Every time I pulled out the book of food stamps in the supermarket I wanted to scream, "I get no child support! I did not choose this! I'm on the Deans List!" But who would

care? The condemnation would have clung to me anyway. It's human nature, and each of us judges from an obstructed view. At length I dropped out, burned out, worked for minimum wage and continued bearing the shame of food stamps until relief came. I have no heroic story of feminist triumph. I simply remarried.

When I was alone, fear and stress propelled me through my classes – a pervasive fear that both kept me awake at night, and kept me confined in my trailer during the daylight: the fear that I was ruining the future for my children. Every mistake I made impacted them; every character flaw within me molded their own. How could I escape hindering them? Had I not suffered for my own parents' mistakes?

I purchased shelves upon shelves of parenting books and asked almost daily the question: Am I doing this right? Will they be okay? Can I compensate for the absence of a father in their lives? Should I even try? I studied and read, and I worried and wrote.

And I loved them through their formative years with all my might. I tried so hard, and despised myself for their compound lack of money and a father, of a nice home and piles of toys. If only I were more organized. If only I'd finished school, or stayed in Boston. If only I didn't get so depressed during the bleak years. If only I'd had a nanny and maid and a time share in Orlando. My kids never even had a swingset.

My kids had none of the middle class frills, but I had a mystical moment in 1995 as I sat crying by the river one day. Depression and

shame had crushed my very bones for years, but suddenly a thought thrust itself inward from the side so strong and shocking and different that I sucked in my breath and thought of little else for days; and the thought was this: God never said "if only."

I contemplated those words for days, as returned to the faith of my youth. In spite of every terrible thing I had ever done or said or thought about, God never said "if only." My debt was paid. My life was part of a beautiful pattern, and I perceived the design. I was absolutely loved – unconditionally. I knew then that the worst trials and mistakes of our lives can become gifts of encouragement to others; that is the very essence of redemption.

Dear old Walt posed the question, "What is the grass?" And in answer he wrote,

I guess it must be the flag of my disposition, out of hopeful green stuff woven.

Or I guess it is the handkerchief of the Lord,

A scented gift and remembrancer designedly dropt,

Bearing the owner's name someway in the corners, that we may see and remark, and say Whose?

Or I guess the grass is itself a child, the produced babe of the vegetation.

So, did I mess up my kids? Sure. I didn't understand as much even last week as I do today. All of my understanding today might seem foolish ten years from now, but the goal is no longer perfection. In fact, the goal is no longer defined. The learning of this moment, whatever it is, the

continued on page 13

Editorial:

Is anyone else having severe problems finding parking?

In a college that is accepting more students than ever before, parking is fast becoming an off-roading experience. Students looking for a quick fix park on the lawn, the sides of the road, or on a steep slope.

They brave the dangers of curb jumping (and occasionally scraping the undercarriage of the car), getting the car nicked by a driver who is just a little too close, or worrying that the vehicle will slip, pop out of gear, or pull against the engine and go careening down the hill to catastrophic ends.

There is also the constant threat of the grassy area turning to mud. Nobody likes the messy job of getting their car out of that situation.

People who have time and patience enough to look for a real parking space can be seen circling the lot like a group of starving sharks, ready to pounce at the slightest hint of salvation.

It's a bit ludicrous.

This summer, the college paved a larger parking area for students in the lower parking lot, near the mailroom. While this may have been enough last year, it's not quite cutting the trick this year. Parking spaces can be filled campus wide, yet students, staff and faculty are still forced to park in strange and dangerous places.

What are we going to do in the winter when snow banks prevent us from parking in our spillover spaces?

Should we park on the road? Block other drivers in?

Suggestions for solving the parking problem include taking car privileges away from freshmen. How will this solve the problem in the commuter parking lot? Freshmen who live on campus park their cars in the Stonehenge or Wheelock parking areas. A few individuals may drive their cars over to the commuter lot to attend classes, but not enough to make a significant difference. Freshmen who live off campus need their cars to get to college.

Turning the grassy knoll next to the softball field into a parking lot has also been mentioned. Can you imagine making the hike from that far

off field to class? During the winter, no less? Someone is bound to get hit.

Parking will only continue to become more of an issue as time goes on, and the college continues to accept an increasingly larger number of students. With all that tuition money coming in, do you hope they're formulating a solution for the parking problem?

Here is a recipe microwavable nachos. It is easy for any college student to make:(Nachos)

- * 4 cups corn chips
- * 1-1/2 cups (6 ounces) grated Cheddar cheese
- * Toppings: olives, green chilies, etc. (optional)
- * Picante sauce to taste (optional)

Spread corn chips on microproof serving platter. Sprinkle with cheese and drizzle picante sauce over. Microcook on high (100%) 1-1/2 minutes, or until cheese is melted. Serve at once. (<http://www.friedmansmicrowave.com/recipes/kid-nachos.html>)

Ramen noodles are another food that college students have been eating for years. "101 ways to Make Ramen Noodles Cookbook," by Toni Patrick is a cookbook that gives students a chance to "spice up" the ways they make their noodles. A little variety can't hurt. The cookbook is available at Amazon.com for \$9.95

-Anthony Pignetti

Time For Change

Whew. It's about frickin' time we got this paper out, wouldn't you agree?

After battling some serious delays in the area of layout, we finally got all the bugs worked out and are ready to rock and roll.

We're going with a new format this year, not only in an attempt to make things look . . . better . . . but also in an attempt to breathe new life into the Critic.

We're also going to try our best to get the Critic out on a regular schedule. The student paper is in theory a bi-weekly production, but until now, this has mostly been some sort of vague legend. We're going to do our best to turn that fairy tale into a reality this semester.

We are also fortunate to have a team of very talented

writers on staff. Several of them are non-traditional students, who bring a unique point of view to the paper.

We would also like to extend our many thanks to Professor Harry Mueller. He used his expertise to bail us out of a tight spot. With luck he will continue to aid in the production of the Critic.

Student papers are there to provide the student body with information and news that concerns them. We are also here to provide a voice.

Feel free to let us know how we're doing. We're always looking for new staff, ideas and feedback. We can be reached at Critic@Lyndonstate.edu.

We hope you enjoy the new format.

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The Critic is a bi-weekly publication that serves the Lyndon State College Community. Enjoy the new format. Feel free to send comments to critic@lyndonstate.edu

New Dean on the Scene: Dalton Takes Over

Donna Dalton takes over for Michael Fishbein as Dean of Academic Affairs

Press Release

The school recently hired Dr. Donna Dalton to the position of Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, a job formerly filled by Dr. Michael Fishbein.

Dalton, who will not arrive until November first, comes to LSC from Gannon University, where she holds the title of Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs.

She also taught psychology for ten years at Trinity college, where she says she was "just a faculty member." While at Trinity, Dalton eventually became the Chair of the Psychology Department, and then moved up to become Trinity's Dean of

Academic affairs.

Dalton says her favorite class to teach was Introduction to Psychology because it gets students interested in the subject, and if a teacher "can hook them, they are interested in human behavior for the rest of their lives."

She remembers a number of students she taught who have gone onto do "wonderful things," and says she has learned a lot from them.

"The exciting thing about being in higher education is that what you do everyday has an impact on someone's life," said Dalton.

Dalton says that being a new administrator on campus is a little like being an anthro-



Donna Dalton

pologist; you have to study and know the culture. She plans to listen and ask questions when she begins her

tenure at LSC, because it's the "only appropriate thing for the new person on campus."

She sees her new position of Dean as the person who gathers up all the good ideas, harnesses them, and finds the funding for the good ones.

Dalton currently resides near the Sugarbush resort area. She has been skiing for the past 42 years, and has skied all over the United States and Canada. She also enjoys sailing with her husband, although she says "He's the sailor and I'm the deckhand."

Go Yankees

Advertise in The Critic!!!!

A smart choice for your business!

The Critic is Lyndon State College's Campus newspaper. With an estimated seven issues each semester (about one every two weeks) and 1,000 copies circulating throughout the campus and the surrounding community, The Critic can be the perfect resource for your business or organization to really spread the word!

The Critic is now offering advertising space among its information-filled pages. The Critic's sections contain news stories on LSC's biggest issues, letters and editorials from students and teachers, and stories and cartoons created by students at LSC.

The LSC community consists of over 400 traditional college students, 700 commuters and non-traditional students, and 300 professors and employees, all of whom are a large and important part of the surrounding community's economy.

Placing ads with THE CRITIC is easy.
To submit an ad to The Critic, send a copy of your ad with a brief drawing or explanation (if needed) and a check written to The Critic at:

THE CRITIC
LSC Box #7951
Lyndon State College
Lyndonville, VT
05851

...or drop off your ad at the Critic office on the first floor of LSC's T.N. Vail building, Room 104. If you have any questions, or need more information call, 626-6200 ext 6215

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	Per issue	Six Issues	Twelve Issues
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Construction underway on dorms and student center

**By Ryan Millet
Critic Staff**

One first notices signs of construction on LSC's campus when coming over the hill and seeing cars parked on the side of the road, on the grass or well beyond the yellow lines designated as parking spots. Lack of parking is not the only sign renovations are being made. When looking from campus toward Burke Mtn. one can see steel I-beams protruding from the tore up hillside. The crane is a temporary ornament to the evolution of LSC's campus. The steel beams are going to be a new dormitory and student activities center. The lower floor will

house club and staff offices.

James Gallagher said in an e-mail sent in late August, "The summer was spent blasting and removing thousands of cubic yards of ledge in preparation for the foundation work. This is a large project, but you will see steady progress over the next few months as the buildings take shape. Please do not wander into the construction site as it would be hazardous to you and a major problem for the contractor. If you are interested, the construction site can be viewed from behind the construction fence near the Wheelock residence hall."

There is much smaller construction and jobs going

on around campus some recently finished and some in progress. The asphalt turn around in front of the ATT was repaved over the summer. The fresh blacktop looks much better than the former rutted and cracked gray cement.

The two bathrooms in the lobby of the ATT were renovated. When you visit these bathrooms you can see school spirit in full design by the bright yellow and green tiles accenting the shiny white walls. New toilets, sinks and hand dryers make these LSC's finest waste facilities.

The porch and ramp project in front of the ATT entrance are still under construction, but should be

completed shortly. Gallagher stated, "The ramp will remain closed until the railings are completed but the steps can be used now where temporary railings are installed."

The problem of parking will not be resolved any time soon. Gallagher said of campus paving, "With some difficulty, we have managed to pave certain areas of the campus road and walkway system. You may have noticed that areas around Vail, Brown House, Stonehenge residence halls, ATT, Gray House and the Staff/Faculty lot have been paved. More areas will gradually be completed this fall and next spring."

Faculty Member takes sudden leave

**By: Rachael Morrow
Critic Staff**

A member of the Lyndon State Faculty has taken an unexpected leave of absence.

Associate Professor Kevin Farrell began the semester teaching several math courses, but at present, he is neither on campus, nor teaching those classes.

Citing confidentiality issues, Dr. John Kascenska, acting Dean of Academic Affairs, refused to say whether the leave was college enforced or a personal matter on the part of Farrell. Kascenska did say, however, that he fully expects Farrell to return to teach for the spring semester, and that Farrell continues to be a valued member

of the teaching faculty.

Farrell's math classes are currently being taught by other members of the math department, who are teaching Farrell's classes in addition to their regular course loads.

Mathematics' Department Chair Jim Bozeman, who is currently teaching six classes, said the department has been forced to pick up extra classes before when a teacher became sick about ten years ago. He said the math department is "a good department, willing to pick up slack," and students effected by the change are doing well.

Bozeman also called Farrell "an important cog in the machine."

Farrell has been teaching at Lyndon State since 1990.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR SPRING 2005 COURSES DURING PRIORITY REGISTRATION

- Advisors will have access to students' degree audits and transcripts on-line. However, it is recommended that students print off a copy of their degree audits to take to their meeting with their advisor.

- Students and faculty should be able to view the Spring schedule at MAPLE.VSC.EDU by the end of the day on Monday, October 25th. MAPLE is also available through the LSC portal (Blackboard). Printed copies of the schedule will also be available at the Registrar's Office.

- Students should set an appointment time with their advisor, preferably before their registration date, to discuss the students' requirements for the Spring semester.

- With the approval of your advisor, you will be able to register yourself for Spring classes, through MAPLE, per the registration schedule below. Otherwise, you will register for classes with your advisor, or your advisor will sign a written form and you will register directly at the Registrar's Office window.

- Print a copy of your schedule to verify the classes for which you are enrolled. Be sure to check credit hours and time slots. If you have questions, see your advisor or the Registrar's Office staff.
- Remember, ultimately YOU are responsible for ensuring that your schedule is correct.

SENIORS (90 or greater earned credit hours) Monday, November 1, Tuesday, November 2

JUNIORS (60 - 89 earned credit hours) Wednesday, November 3, Thursday, November 4

SOPHOMORES (30 - 59 earned credit hours) Friday, November 5, Monday, November 8, Tuesday, November 9

FRESHMEN (0 - 29 earned credit hours) Tuesday, November 9, Wednesday, November 10, Thursday, November 11

ANY CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS Thursday, November 11, Friday, November 12

McCabe: New Director of Academic Support Center

**By: Norman Johnson
Critic Staff**

Bob McCabe, the former director of Upward Bound, is the new director of the Lyndon State College Academic Support Center. McCabe is an intense yet personable man dedicated to student success.

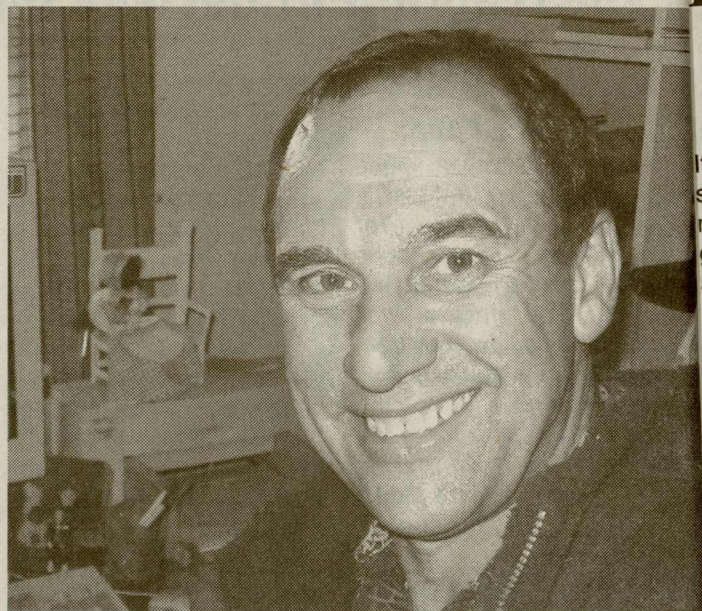
The LSC Academic Support Center houses Excel and the Student Academic Development programs. Excel and Upward Bound are administered by the U.S. Department of Education's Trio program. Trio's overview provides support for pre college preparation, successful college admissions, and improved rates of college graduation.

McCabe compared and contrasted aspects of the two programs. Upward Bound assists high school students who want to attend college. They come from low income families, families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree; or they might be low income, first generation veterans preparing for college. Upward Bound's goal is to increase student success rates and to support the students through the degree process. Excel begins with a similar student criteria, includes disabilities, and supports students through their college years. Excel's goal is to increase the rate of college graduation. Excel is the college equivalent of the Upward Bound program.

Upward Bound students begin their successful process in high school by first learning to be proactive. "It's a self selection process that they are held accountable for. They have to want the program, and they have to work to stay there. It's

simple; if they don't work at it, they're no longer in the program," he said. "The Upward Bound student comes to college better qualified than many new college students. They bring work ethic and motivation. Other new freshmen often don't know why they're in college: the academics, the freedom, the social life, or the skiing. Unmotivated students come to college with the freedom to fail." It's clear McCabe is dedicated to the Upward Bound program and to the new LSC position with its Excel program. "There are too many kids going to college unprepared. Many arrive and discover, too late, there's nobody there to tell them what to do or when to do it; they have to be self motivated."

There a lot more to Bob McCabe than meets the eye. "He talks about not carrying them along, but he really cares about them more than he admits. At ten o'clock one morning I heard him yell at some student over the phone, 'get your rear-end out of bed and get to work,'" said Lynda Morgan, staff assistant at Upward Bound. "He works at it 800% but you only see a small part of that. He's extremely dedicated, at times unrelentingly so. There is nobody who cares more for those kids and their futures than Bob," says Ms. Morgan. "A lot of these kids have a lot to overcome, and don't have the support elsewhere. He goes the distance to get them tutoring, or financial help, or just the personal support they need. You wouldn't believe the money he raises so they can go to college. It's uncanny how well he relates to them in high school and he tracks them through college too."



Bob McCabe

Bob McCabe takes over the position effective October 4. I asked Mr. McCabe what motivated him to apply for his new LSC position. "I came here in 1987 from the University of Minnesota. I've been around here for almost eighteen years. I think I'm ready for a schedule change," He knows the programs. He knows the ins and outs of college preparation, college testing, the how and where of scholarship and grant searches, the schedules and requirements of entering different institutions, career counseling, and he understands the problems. "Every college

has its problems," said McCabe. "UVM's are different than LSC's. I know students because I track them through college, and I know their histories. I also know how colleges work." He said. "There are a lot of administrative duties that go with the new job, but I'm going to be just as involved with college students as I was with the high school students. There are a lot of resources offered at the college that aren't used. I want more college students taking advantage of those resources, and finishing their degrees."

Gilman on Sabbatical

**By: Ryan Millet
Critic Staff**

Chandler Gilman, Associate Professor of English, is on sabbatical for the 2004 academic year. Gilman, who has been teaching here at LSC since 1988, teaches writing and poetry classes. Sabbatical is granted to tenured professors. It gives

them time off from academic duties to work on or get involved in outside activities and projects such as finishing a book or doing humanitarian work. Alan Boye, Professor of English, took sabbatical last year to finish writing a new book. Elaine Razzano, Associate Professor of English, took sabbatical to go

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Profile: Don Machete

**By: Norman Johnson
Critic Sraff**

Don is a Vietnam veteran. It's hard to imagine him as a soldier covered in red clay mud or dust. He speaks intelligently, with a mid western accent, doesn't have a screaming eagle tattoo visible, and has fashionably, well cut graying hair; these days he looks more like a business man than a soldier. Don is explaining to me why he sleeps with a weapon under his bed.

"In the sixties, I got drafted into the Army, was shipped to Vietnam with a bunch of other unhappy guys, and found myself in the jungle under fire the day after I stepped off the plane. It didn't take long for stateside reason to give way to battlefield instinct and life to run in its own time zone. Every soldier developed his own concept of time and reality.

"In my squad was this total asshole we called "The Animal." He was a farm kid off a ranch in Wyoming who, among other things, did foul things to his livestock. He was an utter social misfit, and had spent a lot of time in jail. In Vietnam, he was a hero. He fought like a berserker and was so sharp he could actually smell the enemy. When The Animal said he smelled something, we hit the deck. In the jungle, with serious crap hap-

pening all around you, there wasn't a better guy to have with you." Don looked at the toes of his loafers and laughed. "Today, I'll bet you, he's in the Wyoming State Penitentiary for screwing a heifer.

"We had a "Sergeant Rock" for a commanding officer; like the comic book character. He got the nickname because he was fearless. As far as anyone knew, Sergeant Rock had never been afraid of anything in his life. He did three combat tours and the men believed he was comic strip immortal. Lieutenant, Sergeant Rock lived in a dream world, though. He smoked a lot of pot, drank an easy case of beer a day, and did crystal meth just to put an edge on things. One morning he woke up with a weird feeling. Later that day, he radioed the commanding officer. The old timers looked out for each other. Sergeant Rock's commanding officer was an old timer. Rock had explained to him he was scared for the first time in his life. The CO instantly understood the situation and had him reassigned out of the combat zone. In short, we had some crazy way of staying alive. Sometimes it even worked."

Don shook out a cigarette, lit up, and squinted through the smoke. "When I got home, I really needed to get my head

straight again. My uncle had lived through some bad stuff during WWII in the Pacific. The family knew he had been a machine gunner but nothing else; he never talked about it. I went to him thinking he was the only one in the family who would understand what I'd been through. He listened to me without saying a word, though I must have talked for hours. When I finally got it all out, he just looked at me, with those big liquid sorry eyes of his, and walked away. A week later he killed himself. His unresolved horrors lurking below the surface of his consciousness all those years had finally surfaced. It's sad, because things would have ended differently if he had had someone to talk to when he came home."

Don, paused and looked out across the river, took another drag from his cigarette, then continued. "After Vietnam, I didn't feel comfortable sleeping without a weapon within reach. The protection was both reassuring and unsettling. I was married by then, living in the city, and the city created an anxiety in me I couldn't shake without some sort of protection near me. It was so like Vietnam at times without the heat and humidity. The family and I came to Vermont to escape that anxiety. We liked the country, so we bought an old

farm house with a barn, and I got two dogs. Gradually, the need to have a weapon around diminished and I began to sleep easy as a child again.

"Early one very black morning, an odd sensation crept into the dream I was having. The dogs hadn't barked but something wasn't right. Out of dead sleep, my eyes popped open, my mind fully engaged. Moving slowly across the wallpaper of my bedroom wall, was a ruby-red pin point of light. Very god-damn laser-like. A gun sight most certainly; coming from the laser of a deer jacker's rifle sight. The poacher could have easily been a thousand yards out there in the brush and I began to laugh out loud; after all this time, the old survival instincts were still there, humming away just below the surface."

Laughing, he stubbed out the butt, and got to his feet. "So I still sleep with a weapon under the bed. It's just an old machete, more a farm tool than a weapon, but it keeps me happy. My son asked me the other day, 'daddy, why do you sleep with a machete under the bed?' I told him, 'If you broke into our house one night and saw a naked man at the top of the stairs with a machete, wouldn't you be scared?' He told me, 'Yes, daddy, I sure would.'"

Sabbatical

to China.

Gilman will be working on several creative projects, including a collection of short stories and a volume of poetry. Gilman has tried to squeeze time in to work on his books for the last several years. He is glad to have sab-

batical this year, and he hopes to finish both works while on sabbatical.

Along with teaching classes, Gilman has been advisor to LSC's Literary Society which annually puts out The Lyndon Review, a collection of poetry, non-fiction, fiction,

and art work submitted by students, faculty and the community. Gilman is available through e-mail, and says he checks it every couple of days.

Gilman lives in Danville with Lisa MacDowell, also a member of LSC's English

Department, the mother of their new born daughter, Thea Emily MacDowell-Gilman. Thea was born this year on April 1st.

"I love being around Thea and am amazed by her growth and developing personality," said Gilman."

Freshman get their first experience



The entire freshman television studies department sits in front of the scenic CBC

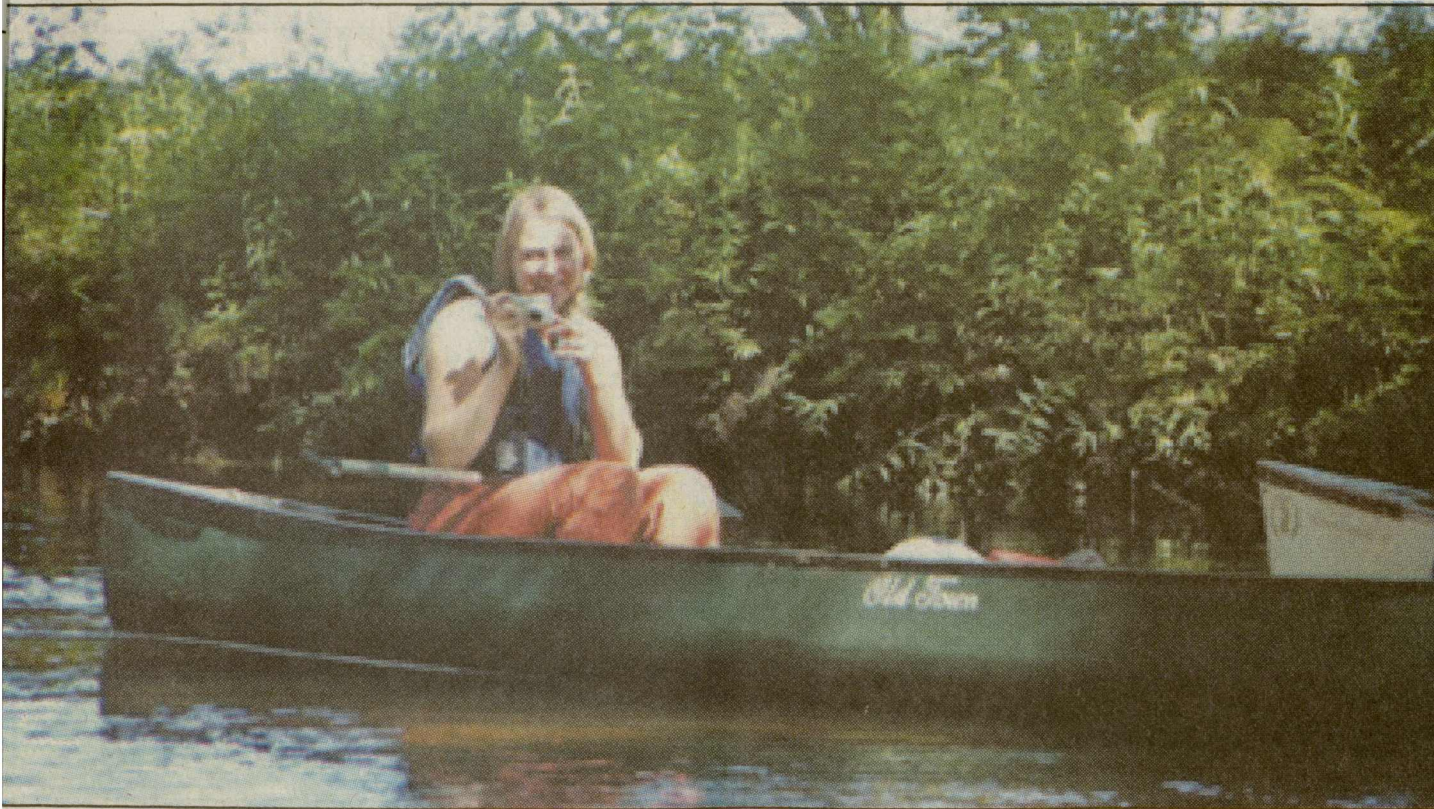


Amanda Gilman posing in front of costumes at the Canadian Broadcasting Company



Ben Goertz shows off his musical skills as he plays a paper mache piano at the Canadian Broadcasting Company

More freshmen experience photos



ADVERTISING SALES CONTRACT

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Tips and Techniques: Winterizing your apartment

The Critic's *How To* articles are written by staff writer Marla Sawyer

Three months from now, when white icy winds would rip your lips off as you hurry to class, and the back roads are slick with hard packed snow, and the heavy gray skies seem to hang in the same dreary manner all week without a single beam of sunlight to sparkle on the snow, a bright and toasty warm apartment will go far toward warding off the winter blues.

Warmth implies heat and color.

For starters, a few inexpensive but bright, fluffy pillows and a fleecy throw for your reading chair could make a huge difference for under \$50. Also, lots of plants and some full spectrum lighting can provide a year-long illusion of summertime. Full spectrum lights can actually help prevent seasonal depression by raising serotonin levels in your brain.

If the drafts are really bad, it would be worth your while to take on an afternoon project, and plug up the airflow. The following step by step instructions can be seen at About.Com on line at <http://apartments.about.com/cs/repairs/ht/winterize.htm>

Difficulty: Average
Time Required: 1-2 hours

Here's How:

1. Count and measure all windows and sliding glass doors. (Don't forget windows in exterior doors.)
2. Count the number and types of electrical outlets and light switches on exterior walls.
3. Find the size (in BTUs) of any air conditioners.
4. At a hardware or home

improvement store, buy window insulation kits, outlet insulation kits and air conditioner covers.

5. Remove outlet covers and switchplates, install insulation and replace them.
6. Cover the outside of your air conditioning units. (Make sure you close the vents, too.)
7. Install window insulation kits, using a hair dryer to pull them taut
8. If you have air infiltration around exterior doors, install weatherstripping or see if your landlord will do it.
9. Sit back and enjoy your remarkably less drafty

house

Tips:

1. Many people claim you can save the cost of window insulation kits by using plastic tarp and strong double-sided tape.

2. Heavy duty trash bags (like lawn and leaf bags) and duct tape can be used to cover the outside of air conditioners.

3. When buying window insulation kits make sure to buy the proper type (interior or exterior) for your needs.

What You Need:

- air conditioner cover
- window insulation kit
- blow dryer
- outlet insulation

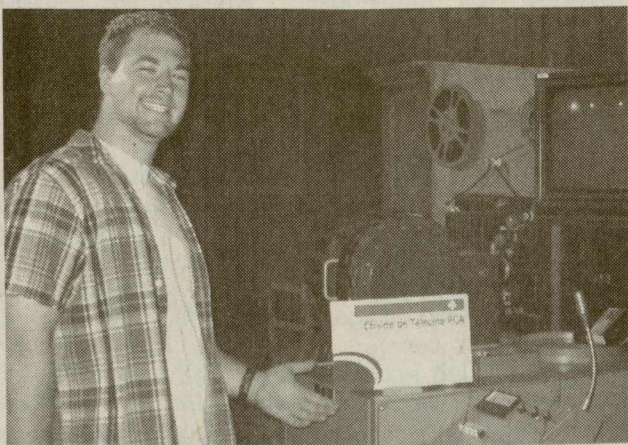
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THE CRITIC
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05851



Freshman Ben Goertz shows off old camera equipment at the Candian Broadcasting Company

History Notebook

Learning the Red Village of the Past

By Norman Johnson
Critic Staff

I've been building a house between Red Village and East Lyndon for the last two years, but didn't know much about them. Recently I accepted a writing assignment to research their histories, an opportunity to get to know them better.

Red Village Road junctions with route 5 at the Speedwell convenience station south of Lyndonville. From route 5, the road follows the Passumpsic River along the tracks past the Pines Nursing Home, The Riverside School, the old Hoffman House, then comes to the Severance Hill junction, Berry Tire on the left.

This small group of buildings is known as Red Village. Next to Berry Tire, a shabby red barn with its "Meadow Brook Farm" sign proclaims good times long passed. The tire shop and its adjacent home are painted red. Behind the tire shop there is the groomed short grass of a small private golf course. On a rise, a small home looks much like a one room schoolhouse. Continuing, the colors change and houses dwindle in the rear view mirror.

Beyond Red Village, the road rubs up against rocky, swift flowing Sheldon Brook, and they wind together up a wooded valley. The hillside on the left hides the Outing Club with Lyndonville beyond. There is an occasional home here and there until you cross the creek and come to Houghton's Greenhouse. Houses cluster and you have the village setting again. There are no "Welcome to East Lyndon," or "Red Village, population

20, drive carefully" signs. However, maps have shown them for a long time. East Lyndon just celebrated its 200th. Birthday.

I was curious about historical accounts. Locally, I found a few accounts written by former and present day citizens. Statistics and newspaper accounts gave me a few unrelated snapshots.

Lyndon was chartered in 1780; six square miles divided into seventy rights each of 329 1/7 acres with 9 1/7 acres of each right reserved for roads and highways. Fifty-three proprietors bought into Lyndon's first land transaction, most proprietors receiving one right, some granted more than one right. Veterans of the Revolution were given handsome discounts to rights. Rights were reserved for public, educational, and religious purposes also. With the abundance of moving water in the area, provisions for a gristmill and sawmill were included. Some proprietors settled their rights while others granted acreage to families in lieu of payment to settle their property, in agreement with their contractual requirements.

Life in the early Republic of Vermont, which Lyndon belonged, was not a weekend at the beach. They had to worry about the surly English to the north, humiliated by the American Revolution, and being grabbed by New York or New Hampshire on either side. The first settlers concentrated more on cutting timber than farming. They cut timber efficiently, as seen in the earliest black and white photographs, all with bare hills and fields for backgrounds.

Everett Berry, owner of Berry Tire in Red Village, summed it up.

"The brush was up past your head. Settlers had to cut it back just to get some sun. It was a battle between the weather, the brush, and the man to see which would come out on top".

Settlement began in Lyndon Corner, then spread. Small communities sprang up whenever people saw fit to live close. East Lyndon and Red Village were two of such communities. Records show Red Village had a school, two brick kilns, and a hotel, serving freighters and travelers between Boston and Montreal. Meadow Brook Farm was a busy dairy with a bottling line. East Lyndon had a church, a school, a blacksmith shop, and a mill on the creek. Three generations of the Powers family produced handsome basket bottomed chairs.

Lyndon's history is punctuated with disasters; floods, fire, pestilence, you name it. Downtown Lyndonville burned several times. Surrounded by moving water, flooding was a problem. Then there was the typical rugged Vermont winter and following spring thaw with its infamous mud season to contend with. The flooding of 1927 moved homes and buildings and washed out railroad grades leaving twisted ribbons of steel tracks near Red Village looking like roller coasters. The same flood left houses in the area with water to their eaves, and barns full of dead livestock. The flood happened in November and people had to deal with winter in addition to recovering lives and property.

I had a few facts and anecdotes, but was still missing something so I went out to talk with people. At Berry Tire I cornered Everett Berry. Everett had to have his larynx removed and talked with a handheld speech device pressed to his throat.

"All the houses were painted red at one time." He explained. "Areas with ten or more people in them became villages." He said when asked how the two areas started. History, however, didn't get much beyond the obvious or the early 1900s.

Next I went in search of Nate Houghton. The Houghton family has lived in the East Lyndon area for generations. I had heard that Nate was a talker. I thought might get some history from him.

No deal. Nate eyed me a moment after I introduced myself and explained what I was researching.

"You need to talk to Leland Simpson. He knows more about the old days than I do." He wasn't rude, but he was firm.

We chatted, I thanked him and left thinking I wasn't getting anywhere. I spent the following day searching for people who weren't home, wouldn't come to the door, or wouldn't return my calls. I was getting frustrated with a mediocre book report; at a standstill. Then, out of nowhere, I began to look things differently.

I stood in an open bay at Berry Tire talking with Everett Berry. Everett is a wiry man with attentive eyes and a ball cap. I seldom pass the shop that Everett isn't out front talking with someone. Well, buzzing

continued on page 13

ed Village

Sty is more accurate. No al cords has silenced arett. His artificial voice is and held device the size an electric shaver held to side of his throat. It's as ch a part of him now as arm or leg. Pressing a ton causes his throat to eed rate. It creates a single roa e he can manipulate to m speech. It has a hollow "H inotone quality mixed with en d background buzz of the her eech device. I understand sai n easily, but it's clear his twi rring out days are over. "They painted everything ow here. There's the name," on explained. "The foundation for part o the tire shop was built he m rock a man had his son d in ul out of the river. The kid for ade sure everyone knew ha had hauled all that rock nt hand from the river. That om rt of the foundation is ostly granite, and is the a vil to drill through if you ed to put a hole through r power or something," he id. He buzzed away about ome s flooded up to the ves during the 1927 flood. S hicken coops were floating e, ound filled with drowned ickens. He built the little d lf course for his wife, com t ete with greens and little

fluttering flags. She loved golf. He continues to mow and maintain the course but finds it difficult to play it any more. He paused, dropping the hand and device in silent tribute. She died the same time he was going through throat surgery. You could feel how hard it had been for him. "John Deere was the best thing to happen to Vermont," he said suddenly. "Without John Deere we'd still be out there hacking back the jungle." He said before tractors, people were proud just to have a tiny bit of lawn in front of the house. The rest of the property would be wild. "Nowadays, any singlewide can have ten acres of beautiful green grass around it with a fat guy mowing it." He laughed; a quick wheezing in and out of breath without vocal noise. It was unmistakably a laugh, though. We chatted and he buzzed and droned, the drone punctuated here and there by wheezes when something tickled him. They'd had one of the first TVs and kids would crowd around and gawk, open mouthed with amazement; wheeze, wheeze. It suddenly went silent.

The only noise was traffic outside and a conversation in the next room. I looked over and he was glaring at his speech device. He held it out for me, "low battery." "Almost out." He buzzed. "Some people tell me to just let the thing run out." Wheeze, wheeze. "I got a drawer full of batteries in the office." I left Everett, like an alien out of a science fiction movie, buzzing and wheezing away with a customer and I felt better about the time spent. I heard Nate Houghton was a talker. So I drove into Lyndonville. He and his wife run a produce stand out of the back of a pick up next to Carmen's ice cream shop. He was out on an errand, so I chatted with his wife, a tanned pleasant woman wearing a Cozumel, Mexico T-shirt. She introduced her husband, a spare medium height man in worn work clothes. His lined face had a focused no-nonsense character wearing an expression that was neither smile nor frown. This was no man's fool. The way he paused before explaining how little he knew about the old history told me he may know, but at the moment he was up to his ears in things to get

done. We chatted, I thanked him, and left. I left with the clear image of a hard-working, successful couple. Though they looked like everyday hard working country people, I knew that the Houghtons had worked the East Lyndon area for generations; that Nate flew an ultralight off one of his fields and around the area when the wind wasn't too strong; that it was hard to get him off the tractor once he started something; that Carmen was their daughter, and the ice cream shop was very successful, in spite of its modest appearance. I mused the Cozumel T-shirt was most likely not a yard sale item. What I walked away with was not an accumulation of simple research but an experience with the people living it. I saw and heard a mixture of time and people taking me beyond facts and figures, allowing me to interact with the accumulated living results. I had inadvertently converted my original objective into a living, tangible, experience and I felt much better.

Leaves of Grass

ny and sweetness of this articular revelation, is a rop of added beauty into y life, like the contented oing of my hens pecking t last Wednesday's paghetti; or the perfect orm of a tiny watermelon in y garden that will drop away at the frost; this moment is perfect. My two older kids are teenagers now.

My daughter is firmly focused, motivated, responsible and determined to do her part to set this whole world right; my eldest son is in full-fledged rebellion against everything I ever tried to teach him. They are guiding their own lives now, and as much as I try to lead and direct them, they will have to make choices and learn

from their own failures. They alone can grow in their own capacities, and stumble over their own flaws. Like I did. As my daughter and I stood last month in the dimly lit Hell Mouth of the Mall, with speakers in the rafters hurling screeching pounding swear words above our heads, my daughter made a comment

that warmed my heart. She said she was glad that she learned how to buy wisely and manage money when she was young, even though she had to learn that because we didn't have very much. She said, "You know Mom, it's weird, but I'm thankful for that now. I wouldn't change it. It made me who I am."

SPORTS

Baseball team gets new skipper

Skip Pound retires and makes way for Ryan Farley

**By: Dave Poczobut
Critic Staff**

For the first time in over 20 years, there is a new Head Coach of Lyndon State College Baseball. Ryan Farley, a respected alumnist of Lyndon State was given the job because he was the best man for it.

Ryan says he wanted the job as head coach for many reasons. For starters, he has a deep love for the game, whether it's playing, watching, or even for this case, coaching. He feels that the Lyndon State College baseball program has a lot to offer and he hopes to build it up to where they can compete with the other teams.

Ryan's main goals in his first year as head coach are split into team goals, and individual player goals. For his team goals, he hopes to see some good team chemistry by the spring season along with lots of dedication. Along with those, striving to be successful is key. As far as individual goals go, he would like to see each player come up with their own goals and

achieve them by the end of the year and he would also like for them to make things second nature for themselves.

In being a coach, having that sense of trust is an important factor says Ryan, and he would like to see the players gain a trusting belief in the program that is Lyndon State Baseball. He would also like to see the players gain an improvement in their knowledge of the game.

In the past, Ryan has coached 2 years for a Little League team that became two time champions in their division and came in 4th place in the state tournament. On top of that, he has had some youth football coaching that he has done. Since this is his first year being a head coach for a collegiate program, he says that it will be challenging to try and put his players in the right positions on the field, along with trying to find the best pitching rotation to go with and overall be able to prepare himself mentally for games. While these may be challenging for him,

he believes he will overcome these obstacles. He says that coaching is a "learning experience."

What Coach Farley looks forward to most is working with his players both on and off the field, working on the fundamentals, and overcoming one of his challenges, in that of preparing for the game of baseball, mentally.

Ryan hopes to gain the respect of his players both on and off the field. While he hopes to gain the players respect, he also hopes to gain the respects of the staff here at Lyndon State, as well as the community that supports the college.

While Ryan was a student here a few years back, he was team captain for the Hornets in his Junior and Senior years, and when asked if he feels like a player on the team still, or whether it has finally hit him that he is the new head coach, he said it's hard to say. Being the youngest head coach in the conference, at the age of 24, he feels that some people in the community or even in the

conference will have questions whether he coach at the level based on his young age while the situation is as he calls it "double edged sword" meaning that he is very close to the same age as most of his players, with even a few being slightly older than him. He doesn't think of it in a negative way, in fact he looks at it in a positive way, by having that extra edge in knowing who some of the players are being that he played with them a few years back. He feels that, in fact, he has the advantage, because he is able to relate the players at a different level than that of an older coach.

When asked what Coach Farley's thoughts on the possible NCAA Division II change is, he responded with "it's great for LSC to take the next step forward...it will show that we can compete at the next level."

When asked who Ryan looks forward to playing the most in the upcoming season, he said that he has no preference, "if we do well, winning will take care of it's self."

LSC Athletics Soon to Find New Home

**By Dave Poczobut
Critic Staff**

For nearly the past 50 years, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, better known as the NAIA have been home to Lyndon State College athletics and their athletes. However, like in most places,

there are always changes, and Lyndon State College is no exception. If all plays out, LSC will soon be given a new home in athletics in that of the NCAA, which includes such schools around the nation, as popular as Duke, North Carolina, U-Conn, Miami, and others.

After taking over for the previously retired Darrel "Skip" Pound, Chris Ummer, the new Athletic Director at Lyndon State, made the announcement that LSC will be soon be home to the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

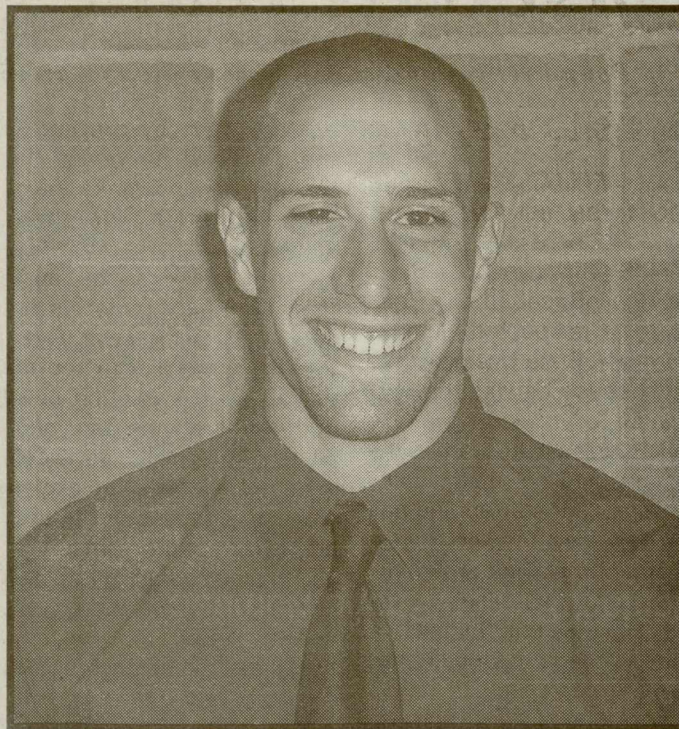
While this change is not

yet official, Lyndon will have an "exploratory status" in the next two years while continuing to play in the NAIA during that time. Around 2006, an "exploratory status" will then be "upgraded" to a provisional membership, which will then last for at least the next four years.

In the Spotlight

Anthony "The Most Electrifying Man at LSC" Moccia

Sport: Soccer
Position: Outside Full Back
Number: 23
Major: Allied Health
Class: Junior
HomeTown: Derby, VT
High School: North Country
Weight: 172
Height: 5'6"
Job: The Great Outdoors
Hobbies: Weight Training, Sports, Cycling
Idols: Arnold Shwartznager, The Rock, and Nick Rowe
Favorite Food: Ravioli
Worst Food: Anything Aramark Related
Favorite TV Show: 24!!!!
Previous Awards and Achievements: All State Skiing in High School, 99'-00' Skiing State Title, and 98' Soccer State Title
Martial Status: Single and looking



NCAA

"LSC has had a great relationship with the NAIA," Ummer said, "and because of our long-standing relationship, there is some sadness at this change, but joining the NCAA fits with some new directions in Lyndon athletics

that we hope will improve the student athletic experience."

Lyndon State won't have to compete against universities such as the likes of the respected, Duke, U-Conn, and North Carolina, because Lyndon State will be NCAA

Division III, and instead will be competing against teams such as Norwich, Middlebury and Plattsburgh which Lyndon State has not been accustomed to playing before

The NCAA Division III is home to as many as 137,000

student athletes. Division III schools must sponsor at least five sports for men and five for women and at least two team sports for each gender.

With these changes, LSC will be able to get better recruitment for their athletics.

The State of Recycling On Campus

Recycling has been tried on LSC's campus before. Members of LSC's Students For Global Change in association with Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Business Affairs, are going to give it another shot. Recycling efforts in previous years have failed, because the work involved in recycling on campus has fallen into the hands of

LSC's custodial staff.

Some members of Students For Global Change, a few other students and Associated Professor Tim Rossiter met with Wayne Hamilton near the end of spring semester to discuss the need for recycling here on campus.

Some of the plans made would've included recycling

bins for glass, paper and plastic around campus and the residence halls. Students would've gathered waste from the collection areas, and they would've brought it to a centralized location on campus for the custodial staff to pick up. With the end of spring semester and most students gone plans for recycling drifted away with

the graduating class.

In a recent meeting by Students for Global Change, Rossiter and Hamilton recycling efforts are back on. The efforts this semester will begin with drink container recycling.

It takes everyone to keep LSC clean.

LSC gets new Athletic Director and Trainer

**By: Dave Poczobut
Critic Staff**

There have been some changes this year at Lyndon State Athletics. Due to the recently retired Director of Athletics, Darrel "Skip" Pound, the former Athletic Trainer at LSC for the past 18 years, Chris Ummer, has taken over. To fill in Ummer's shoes as the new Athletic Trainer is one of Ummer's former students from the LSC class of 2001, Pete Guilfoyle.

Being the Director of Athletics is a job that doesn't come easy, as there are many tasks at hand, however, a few years back when the former Director of Athletics Pound talked to Ummer about Pounds possible retirement, Ummer started to become more interested in the possibility of pursuing the job.

However, if you asked Ummer 10 years ago if he would be in the position that he is today, he would tell you,

not a chance, but as the years grew and Ummer helped out and was assistant in the Director of Athletic activities, the position began to grow on him and he saw it as new challenges; the types of challenges that he was interested in pursuing.

A great Director of Athletics, needs to have a great sense of the history, needs the direction of the program, and Ummer feels that he has gained those things over the past 18 years.

While Guilfoyle said that he is excited about having the opportunity to work with the athletes at the collegiate level, he said that it will be challenging for him to learn to manage his time as he also has the duties of being the Assistant Director of Athletics behind Ummer.

Both Ummer and Guilfoyle have similar goals that are positive and enhancing for the Lyndon community that they would like to see happen in their first years in



Pete Guilfoyle

their new positions. For Guilfoyle, he would like to provide quality health care for the athletes and make their experiences better for each other.

Ummer said that there are many goals that he would like to see happen. For starters he would like to work on the athletic policies, the "code of conduct" in order to help the student athletes, so that not only do they do better on the field during their athletics, but also so that they can do better in the classrooms as well.

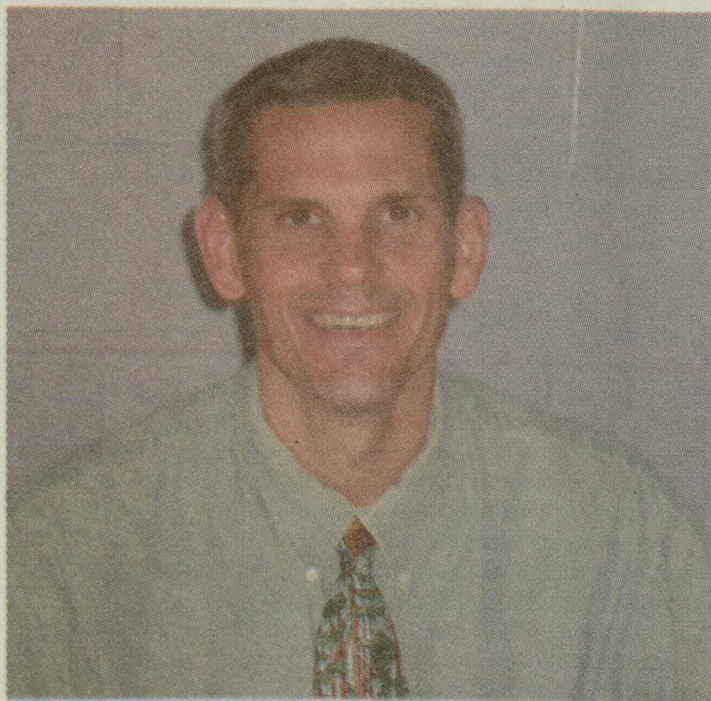
He wants the faculty and the community as a whole to have a better understanding of how much work athletes put forth not only on the court/field, but also both in and out of the classroom.

He would also like to see a change in the financial aspect of things, where he will be working with the budget, in hopes to overtime expand it. Character profiling is a big thing for Ummer as he said that while all the student athletes are all great, it's

very important to find ways to improve things such as trying to get the different LSC teams to go watch each other in support and have "campus wide pride." On top of all that, Ummer said that while things are already in the works, he would like to ensure the change to the NCAA, because he feels it will be a great opportunity to see Lyndon State athletics progress and show that we indeed have the talent to compete.

Ummer also would like to involve the coaches in making decisions as he feels it should be a department wide process. He would like to make all the coaches of the athletes be able to make decisions as a group and not just be a coach on the field.

While Ummer is the new Director of Athletics, he is still both the womens and mens Cross Country Coach, and while he would like to spend more with the teams, he appreciates how they understand how busy he is with things in his new position.



Chris Ummer

The Critic

"Serving the student voice at Lyndon State College"

Lyndonville, Vt.

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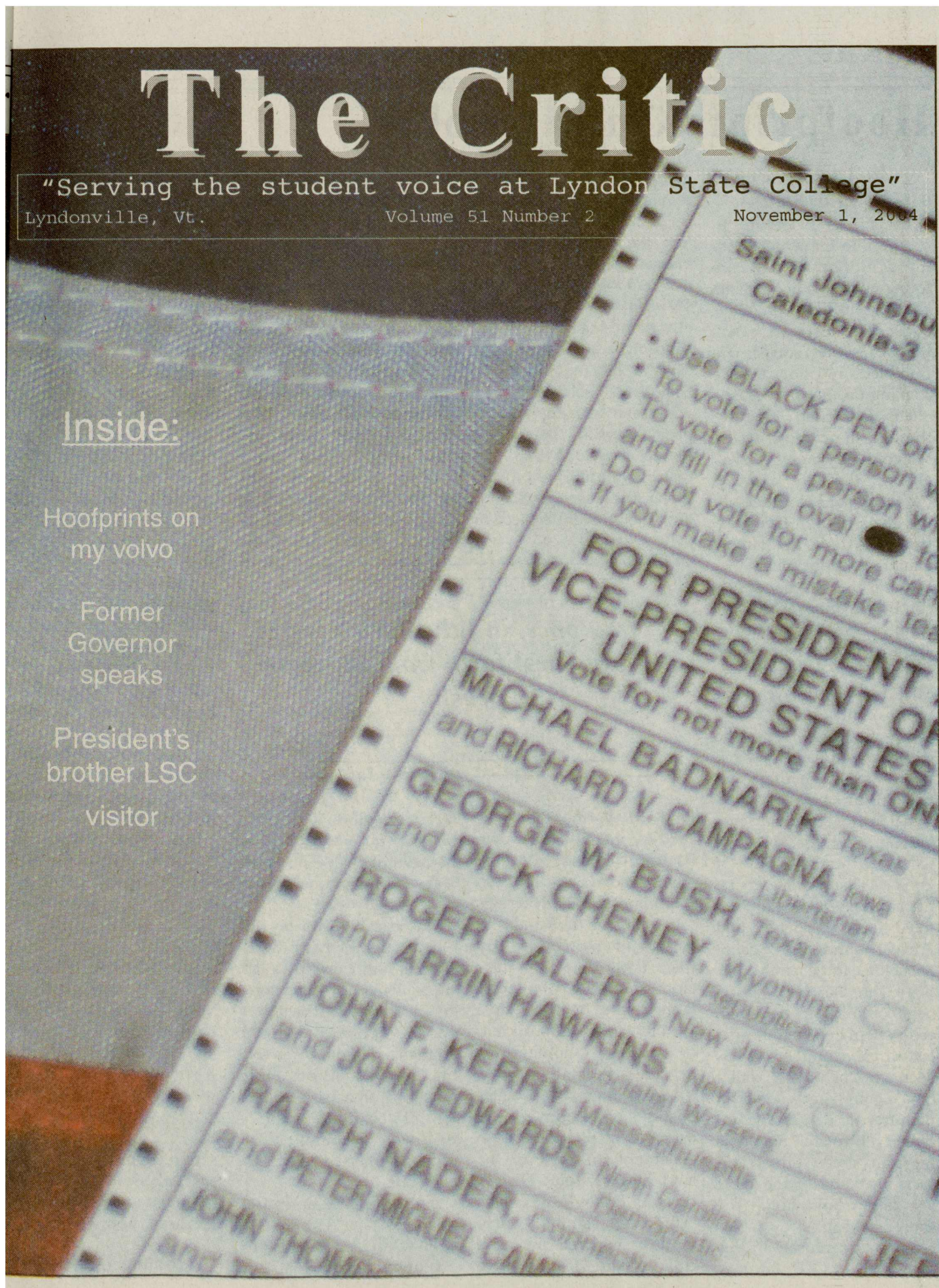
November 1, 2004

Inside:

Hoofprints on
my volvo

Former
Governor
speaks

President's
brother LSC
visitor



Hoofprints On My Volvo

By Marla Sawyer
Critic Staff

Today, as I set out to escape into the woods with my dog, the two goats are lounging on the hood of the car, languidly chewing their cud. The roses are eaten, the beans and squash are trampled, and now they're soaking up the sun. This is chaos. I step gingerly through the carport, trying to avoid the "nanny berries" all over the floor, and call out to my sons to please put the goats back in their pasture. It's futile, yes, but it's a matter of principle.

I'm trying to balance two conflicting philosophies, the simple living homesteader and the modern, social consumer. That's my problem. That is why I have hoofprints on my Volvo

My dog and I pass the mangled garden. A few red hens are scratching and pecking among the ruined tomatoes. I'll turn the vegetation under the soil next week with the spade, I guess. When I moved here, the garden was smaller and tilled to a gray powder, and I even found old bags of pesticides and chemical fertilizers in the shed. But I began building my own eco-system here, and for the last three years the soil has been enriched with rotted hay, goat and chicken manure, and grass clippings. I rotate the crops through seven plots, and each year one of the plots lies fallow and holds the compost heap. Vegetables now grow profusely in this

garden, and if the goats had remained in their pasture I might have been able to sustain the family for half a year on its bounty.

I suppose Henry David Thoreau started this modern homesteading idea of choosing to live simply, and close to the land, but it was Scott and Helen Nearing who really made it seem possible with their book *Living the Good Life*. In that book, published in the 1950's, the Nearings recount how they bought a piece of

land in Vermont in the 1930's and built their own beautiful house from the stones and wood found on the property. The Nearings tapped maple trees and sold syrup for money to pay their taxes and buy their clothes. They planted a large garden, living a simple life of healthy self-sufficiency, eating homegrown organic vegetables and teaching others their methods and philosophy. Their example inspired a whole generation of back to the land hippies, John Denver types, and movies like *"The Wilderness Family"* which, in turn, inspired me as a child of the 70's. I have

tried to be a modern homesteader, but I've become so terribly accustomed to comfort. I need a computer and compost. I walk about three miles in the woods today with my dog. Tasha is one of the greatest delights of my life, gentle and patient as a dotting grandmother with the children, but she's also a vicious chicken killer who eats premium dog food. I'd have to classify her within the Volvo philosophy. She's useless on a home-

Only once, in July, does a secret memory burst forth from the underbrush.

stead. She doesn't obey me. She doesn't even guard the house, but I love her, anyway, and I could never give her up.

Tasha came into my life when Judge Morris ordered a woman in Newport to get rid of all her dogs over some zoning dispute. The newspaper reported that the woman's daughter was sobbing in the courtroom, begging the judge to please let a few of the dogs remain — they were her family. The judge replied, "No. Not even one."

I was appalled at his lack of mercy. So, I called the woman and offered to buy one of her dogs to help out.

Tasha is now a two year old yellow lab/husky mix. She leaps happily over stumps and fallen trees, flushing out pheasants and seeking her own adventure while I ponder the ancient road I am on.

This is an overgrown stretch of long-forgotten stagecoach road. Here, there a low-slung strand of rusty barbed wire demarcates a field of thinner trees thick with underbrush, crumbling stone walls alongside the path and the stone cellar holes poke from the hillsides here, nor is there any other evidence to the seen during 11 months of the year that humans once lived here. Only once, in July, does a secret memory burst forth from the underbrush. Last summer I was amazed to see a flowering bush about twenty feet off the path, deep in the woods tucked humbly among the jumbled vines and brambles which nearly covered an ancient mossy boulder, was unmistakable: a rose bush, in full bloom.

How did it get there? I wondered for a moment if roses were indigenous to Vermont, but then surely other roses would be sending out runners, propagating themselves all over the woods.

Perhaps, I thought, a pioneer woman from Connecticut or Massachusetts tenderly carried that rose bush to the northern frontier, knowing

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Editorial:

As we head into the fiasco we call an election, many people ask themselves (and the rest of society) why so many others don't vote. It's a good question.

Maybe it's because no matter who we vote for, the results often seem to be the same. We vote to have a voice, but the fact is, after the election, many people feel like the candidates no longer listens to the voices of the people. They plow ahead with their own agenda, regardless of what the majority of the world thinks, regardless of America's position in relation to the rest of the world. The power gets taken out the hands of the people, and placed into the palms of a privileged few.

It's almost as if the government has become a monster, growing and too powerful for its creator to control any longer. It's a business now. People make entire careers out of politics, make their fame and their money on it. Decisions that affect the world become the victims of some politician's personal agenda.

Because of the powerful money making monster, there seems to be little room for change. The major election seems to consist of two

parties: Democrat and Republican. The media spotlight, which is where the vast majority of voters get their information, never seems to focus on the Green party, or the Progressives, or the Libertarians. Surely these candidates have new ideas and new ways of doing things, but we never hear of them. This could be because the media never focuses on them (except to imply they may steal votes from major candidates), or the people are afraid to cast what they call a "wasted vote" for these minor parties, or maybe it's just that these parties don't have the funding to compete with the two big cahoonas.

Maybe that's another reason people don't vote, because they feel there is no real choice in candidates, no real change.

But, there must be light at the end of the tunnel, however dim it may seem at the moment. Parties *have* come and gone. There was recently gossip of replacing Hamilton's picture on the twenty dollar bill with a more current president. Supporters thought this change would be easy, because the Federalist Party has, for the most part, gone

the way of the Dodo.

Many people refuse to vote because they think their vote won't count for anything. It's easy to see how they get this impression. There are so many people voting out there that people feel lost in the sea of numbers, their vote becoming just another faceless ballot.

We have only to look at the last election, however, to see how each vote counts. In election 2000, states were won by as few as roughly 500 votes. That's less than the population of most Vermont towns. Due to the previous election, neutral judges from different countries have been called in to keep an eye on the voting process in this election. That's something we usually associate with third world, chaotic countries, like Afghanistan, or Iraq.

Many young people don't vote. They either don't seem to care or chose one of the afore mentioned reasons. There is this one question for those people; are you 18-23: Are you male? Are you registered with the selective service? If you answered yes to all three of these questions, there is one more for you. Why are you registered for the draft, but not regis-

tered to vote?

Despite what you may think about the process, or the government, or the candidates, voting is your voice. It may be a small voice, a whisper compared to the voices of the politicians, but it is still your voice. Not voting is tantamount to not speaking. Things will never change if you do not speak.

Vote.

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Letters

The Critic

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The Critic is a bi-weekly publication that serves the Lyndon State College Community. Feel free to send comments to critic@lyndonstate.edu

Candidates debate key issues amid games and music

By Ryan Millet

On October fourteenth, Students for Global Change hosted an event called "Capture the Flag," which invited many Vermont state politicians to speak on the issues at Lyndon State's Twilight Theater.

The main speaker of the evening was Representative Bernie Sanders, an independent elected in 1990. Sanders is concerned at our nation's state of affairs. The first independent elected in forty years, Sanders has helped battle "big business" and wealthy special interest groups since assuming his position. He is looking to retain his seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Some other speakers were Libertarian Hardy Machia, who is running for governor, Jane Kitchell, a Democrat running for State Senate, Matthew Choate, also a Democrat for running for State Senate, and Edie Bell-Brown, a Democrat running for State Representative. Political Science Professor Robert Dixon also spoke.

Machia, luring young voters from the issues, is an avid supporter of marijuana decriminalization and restoring the legal drinking age to eighteen.

Choate, young and farm-raised in Danville, is a nurse and soke of health care for Vermonters. He supported

Kitchell, and he thought they would work well together in Montpelier. Kitchell's main platform is also health care reform.

Edie Bell-Brown, allumna of Lyndon State, is concerned about the environment. She wants to bring jobs to the Northeast kingdom.

Some of the names on the program who failed to show up were a representative for gubernatorial candidate Peter Clavelle, Vermont Public Interest Research Group's Andrew Hudson, a representative for Patrick Leahy and James Haslam for Vermont Workers' Center.

During the candidates'

speeches, there were roughly fifty people in attendance.

After the political testaments spoke, there was an intermission with food and drinks supplied by Students for Global Change. The musical acts, most of which played politically relevant songs, performed after intermission.

Soloist, folk-rock band former Matt Chamberlain played first. He played songs, four of which were politically driven. His first song was a cover of Bob Dylan's "We Didn't Start Fire". During his second song he broke a string on his acoustic guitar but he didn't let that stop him. He b

Continued on page 2

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Bush's brother visited campus in '80

By Ryan Millet

Over twenty-four years ago, President Bush's brother, Neil Bush visited LSC, campaigning for his father George Bush, who in February of 1980 was still a presidential candidate. The critic printed an article on February 28, 1980 titled "Neil Bush at LSC" by Virginia Ryan.

Neil Bush was a guest speaker/campaigner in Professor Bob. Dixon's Vermont Politics class. The class was open to the college community, was a general introduction of George Bush, by his son, and it included a question and answer period.

February 1980 was months before the Republican and Democratic National Conventions. George

Bush was campaigning for the Republican nomination along with John Anderson, Howard Baker, Ronald

Reagan, Phillip Crane, John Connally and Bob Dole.

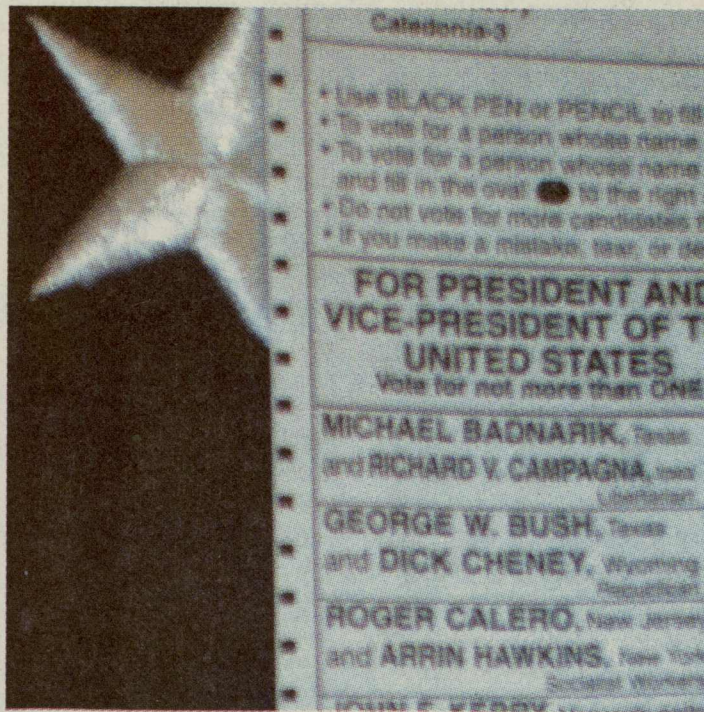
Jimmy Carter was the Democratic incumbent, but

Edward Kennedy, Jerry Brown and Lyndon Laroche sought the Democratic nomination.

Neil Bush opened the session by listing some of the qualifications of his father; his armed service record, a degree in economics from Yale, his congressional career, and his experience in the United Nations and the CIA, have made Bush into what his son called, 'the most qualified candidate for president we have, The Critic reported.

The Republican Party in 1980 felt Ronald Reagan was the most qualified candidate for president. He chose George Bush as his running mate. They won the election in 1980 against Jimmy Carter, and in January 1981 they were sworn in. They brought us the Star Wars missile defense system, the War on Drugs and Reaganomics during their eight years in office.

George Bush finally reached the goal he first attempted in 1980, and he was sworn in as President



of the United States of America in January of 1989.

According to The Critic Neil Bush felt in 1980, "... one of the most impressive traits of his father, was his integrity, and for 'keeping his campaign above ground,' and for not tearing the other candidates apart."

Some of the issues concerning that 1980 campaign were, "inflation, Soviet aggression, the Windfall Profit tax, price control,

ERA, unemployment, the Olympic Boycott, and increased military spending."

Several of these issues are still campaign concerns. Some died long before President Reagan.

In 1980, "Mr Dixon noted in his introduction, that although he was a Kennedy supporter, he felt that hearing a campaign speech would be beneficial to his students."

Flu season is upon us, know the warning signs and stay well

By Ryan Millet

Walking the halls or while sitting in a classroom, one hears coughing, sneezes and sniffing all around. These are the first signs of the flu.

Some other signs are class cancelations and lower attendance. Being in contact with so many oth-

ers on campus, no one is safe from disease and sickness.

The moisture and dampness that fills the Vermont air in the latter half of October and the whole month of November creates a breeding ground for air born pathogens and the flu virus. Some symptoms of

the flu are nausea, congestion, coughing and insomnia. If on campus the Brown House caters to student's health needs. Early treatment and rest are the best cures for the flu or other flu season sicknesses. If one feels the symptoms coming on consult a doctor or knowledgeable medical

practitioner.

"You can't prevent the flu", a registered nurse commented, "but the best way to hold it off is to drink lots of fluids, stay warm and take Echinacea. A shot or two of strong liquor once a week doesn't hurt, and it might warm you up a bit in the cold."

Student awards presented at convocation

By Ryan Millet

Despite the low turn out, LSC's convocation on September 14, 2004 included a variety of speakers and presentations of awards. Professor William Cotte played the piano from the left corner of the stage. President Carol A. Moore welcomed students, guests and faculty. She told the story of a mayonnaise jar. This jar is filled with golf balls, and then it is filled with other assorted stuff like pebbles, sand and coffee. Each of these things represents an aspect of life from the big things down to the small things. She concluded by saying the coffee reminds us we should always have time to sit with a friend over coffee.

Patricia Shine, Assistant Professor of Human

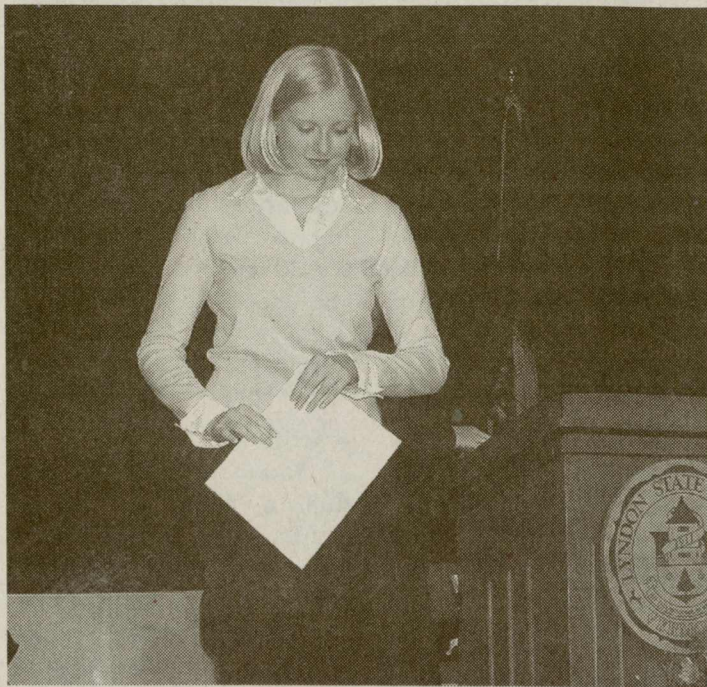
Services, stepped up to the podium next. She welcomed everyone and especially the international community by saying hello in nine different languages. She started in Spanish, and she moved on to French, Chinese, Arabic, Russian, Japanese, Sudanese, Haitian and Hebrew. She concluded with a reminder to think of the global community and your legacy on the world.

There were seventeen organizational or specific scholarships given out, and there were twenty-two leadership awards given.

The Norman Sebastian Memorial scholar was Kathry Mozer. The Edgerton Education Endowment Scholar was Meghan Baker. The Passumpsic Savings Bank Honors Scholar was the



Meghan Baker, left, winner of the first Edgerton Education Endowment Scholarship, with Jan Eastman, the woman who made the endowment possible. The scholarship is named for Eastman's mother and grandmother, both Lyndon Normal School grads.



Kathryn Mozer was the winner of the Norman Sebastian Memorial Scholarship. She also got the Leadership Award and is a Lyndon State College Scholar.

Critic's editor Rachael Morrow. The Transfer Honors Scholar was Terry Gray. Lyndon State College Scholars were Eric Guillot, Jenny Miller and Kathryn Mozer. The Lyndon State College Northeast Kingdom Adult Foundation Scholar was Diane Tanguay. The Lyndon State College Northeast Kingdom Scalars were Naomi Jones and Josee Patenaude. The Vermont Valedictorian/Salutation Scholars were Rebecca Braley, Danielle Fourier, Katelyn Ham, Laura Noyes and Meghan Ricker of whom not one of the recipients showed up. Everyone clapped anyway. Leadership Awards were given to Marc Baribault, Kaitlin Call, Danielle Fournier, Christopher

Frulla, Staphanie Gadapee, Steven Glazier, Eric Guillot, Erin Hoefel, Whitney Hoyt, Jennifer Ingram, Nathan Kandray, Catherine Makosiej, Shane Meaney, Katherine Mozer, Jennifer Pfeffer, Christopher Ransford, Ann-Marie Reed, Christopher Siwek, Brandon Sorensen, Catherine Walker, Mary Wheeler and Sarah Winans of whom half were in attendance.

Moore recognized the scholars after the awards were handed out.

John Kascenska, Interim Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, made the closing remarks followed by the Recessional and an ice cream social in the ATT lobby.

Students writers attend prestigious Frost conference

Two Lyndon State College students recently enjoyed an all expenses paid retreat to the legendary Bread Loaf School of English in Ripton, Vermont to learn about poet Robert Frost.

Junior Madeleine Kingston and senior Ryan Millet, both English majors, won the one page essay competition contest, which required applicants to explain why they should be awarded the trip, which was valued at roughly \$200 and took place September 15-26.

Kingston won with an



Ryan Millet

essay focusing on the idea that people tend to overuse and over read Frost infamous poem, "The Road Not Taken," without really knowing what it means. She stated that she wished to

attend the conference because she wanted to understand Frost better, "and not just think of him as a cool poet who wrote about nature."

Millet, however, focused his essay on the belief that the retreat would help him improve his writing, as well as on the things he has in common with the famous poet. "Like Frost, I have a deep love for nature, and I like to express it in my poems and writings," he wrote.

Both students confess to having a deep love for poetry.

The retreat featured presentations by Middlebury College professors and Frost scholars such as Jay Parini and John Elder. Poetry readings were also given, and a concert by Vermont singer and songwriter Elizabeth von Trapp was also held.



Madeleine Kingston

Forum speaks on women's political issues

By Rachael Morrow

Former Vermont Governor Madeleine Kunin was the featured speaker at a political forum held at Lyndon State College on Tuesday, October 19. The forum, which was hosted by Students for Global Change, focused on issues which will affect women in the 2004 election.

The forum also featured six other panelists from Vermont, with Wendy Love, executive director of the Vermont Commission on Women, acting as moderator.

Among the issues discussed were terrorism, healthcare for the poor and for children, education and the loss of youth and women voters.

"Women fought so hard and so long for the right to vote," said Kunin, referring to the women who don't exercise their right to vote. She also pointed out that total equality between the genders "sure isn't going to happen if [women] don't exercise the right to vote."

Samantha Stevens, a Northeast Kingdom resident who graduated from Emerson College with a Political Science degree, said that with the cost of education rising, few people ages 19-20 having health insurance, and with 80 percent of the troops in Iraq under 35, the drop in voters under the age of 21 "signals a dangerous shift for democracy."

Philene Taormina, a political and legislative columnist, drew attention to the fact that there are very few women in politics. Taormina said that politicians have to be very thick-skinned, and that most women take insults to heart.

"We need to self-select more," she said, pointing out that women do not tend to think of themselves as a candidate for public office. "I think my message would be vote, and then think about running for office."

Childcare and healthcare were also mentioned. Shelia Reed, an advocacy coordinator who works with the Vermont Children's Forum, said that the United States

should have paid family leave, "like other industrialized countries." She pointed out that men have to advocate this issue with women.

"We shouldn't force women to work right after giving birth," said Reed.

Marie Eddy, president of Vermont Business and Professional Women, Janet Haley, Principal of St. Johnsbury School, and Gretchen Hammer, Chairwoman of the Northern Vermont Regional Hospital, also spoke at the event.

Kunin was governor of Vermont, served in the legislature, worked as the U.S. ambassador to Switzerland, and is currently teaching at St. Michael's College.

Construction of new dorms underway



A construction worker lays bricks on the new dorm buildings on the southeast part of campus.



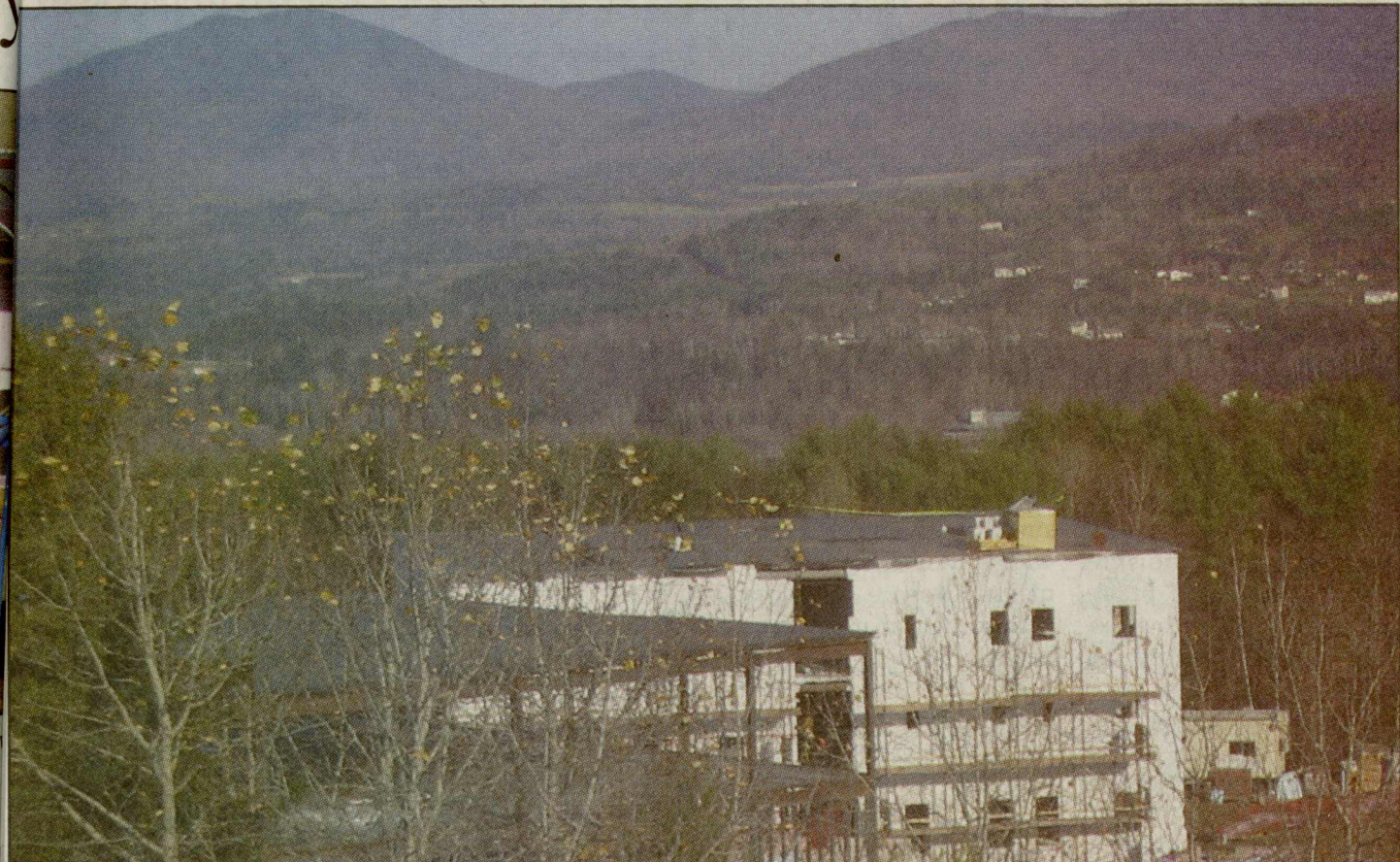
A worker takes a break from exterior work on the new building.



Scaffolding graces the exterior of one of the new buildings.



This cluttered interior will soon house students once a little finishing work has been applied.



The new buildings are framed by a picturesque view of Burke Mountain and the rolling hills of the North Country.



A mason creates a brick facade, which will highlight the exterior of the building.



Meghan Cosby shows a bucket loader that is being used at the construction site.

Hoof Prints On My Volvo — from page 28

that she would never see her home again. She could look at those roses and think of her own parents, her brothers and sisters, and maybe remember the mist of ocean spray on her face, or the fishmongers in the seaside market place in Boston. Two hundred years later, untouched by all the years and wars and industry and technology, the steadfast roses still bloom in July.

I search for the rose bush today, but it is indistinguishable from the brambles and blackberry bushes. The lady's memory is poignant only in July.

Past the meadow and maples we descend into a darker place, a depression of pines and cedars encroaching on an ancient apple orchard. The black, twisted limbs of the apple trees, wet and dark with mildew, reach claw-like toward the sun. My

thoughts turn dark here. I call for Tasha, my soft yellow comfort against the images in my mind — images of dead things, and haunted hollows, and of sacred burial grounds wrongfully seized. Like the rose bush, these trees are living testaments to the efforts of long dead strangers. Who were they? One especially thick, gnarled tree, black with age and moist with stagnant air, stretches its contorted limbs widely in memory of a former sunlit space. At its base a large slate marker, like a headstone, has been set deeply into the soil. I push aside the wet grass and feel for engraving of any kind. Nothing.

Who knows why the stone was set there. This could be the grave of somebody's favorite horse, or of a child's beloved dog like Tasha, whose faithful exuberance is long forgotten.

This place could be the grave of an early settler, perhaps a pioneer woman lovingly laid to rest in the blossoming apple orchard, so far from home with nobody left alive to remember her passing.

Why are my thoughts so dark, that an old apple orchard seems steeped in death? My mind has gone from unmerciful judges, to forgotten isolation on a frontier, to death in an apple orchard. It's all because of the goats.

Boundaries and fences, and duties and roles, are indispensable to order. My life needs order — everybody says so. But my goats (and my dog, and my husband, and my kids) have a function to fulfill, a duty to perform, and a particular sphere in which to do so. Instead, they all quietly demonstrate that they "would prefer not to," and I am powerless over them all.

Yet there's another side to me, a wild, creative, passionate side that is more at home in the woods; a side that would much rather replace the Volvo with a horse and let the goats roam free. I would live off my organic garden and read and write by my fireside all winter long. Like the woodland rose bush, which blooms in riotous profusion for a short while and then submits to blending in with the brambles for a year, this conflicting philosophy emerges and retreats under pressure, as it must.

Ultimately, if we are to live with other people we must give up some of our personal freedom. We need one another. Thoreau chose to live in the woods for only a short time, on property bought and paid for by somebody else, and when it got too tough for him he emerged for dinner at the Emerson's.

Candidate debate — from page 4

rowed an electric from one of the other acts.

Other performers of the evening were a Ska/Punk band known as Isaac's College Fund, a female performer named Senayitt, and a Punk/Hardcore band called The Denton Affair.

When the bands began to play, there were only twenty people in the whole audience. The fourth band, The

Denton Affair, stopped in the middle of their second song and the lead singer asked the audience, "Is this a community college? Where are all the students? Don't people live here?"

Organizers for the event said, "We think the low turnout is because of scheduling conflicts with Lyndon Institute's debate sponsored by the Caledonian Record."



Meghan Cosby peeks into what will soon be somebody's new dorm room.

Scarce campus housng influences LSC enrollment

By Norman Johnson

Enrollment at Lyndon State College this year officially stands at 1349 students, down slightly from last year's 1420, as reported October 22 by Deb Hale, Registrar). Enrollment over the last few years has steadily increased. This year's decline is attributed to the shortage of on-campus housing, according to President Carol Moore's September 10, 2004 annual report to the Board of Trustees. This year's enrollment is the second highest in LSC history. Of the 1349 students enrolled this year, 1236 are undergraduate matriculating students, 8 are in graduate programs, and 105 are continuing education students. Of the 1236 matriculating students, 785 are returning students, and 451 are new to LSC this fall (new first time freshmen, new transfers, or students readmitted after being away.

Jonathan Davis, Director of Residential Life, said the campus housing shortage has several contributing factors: first, yearly increases in enrollment push the existing campus facilities to the limit; second: when Lyndon Institute revived its boarding program this year, LSC lost the convenient use of LI's Mathewson House which housed approximately 30 LSC students. The third reason for the housing crunch is this year the college saw an increased number of continuing students opting to live on campus. Davis said

there are several reasons to explain the increased popularity of on-campus living: the shortage of available off campus housing, the value of campus room and board compared to living off campus, and finally, the convenience, the proximity to college resources, and the close-knit campus community make the decision a "no brainer."

Davis explained that enrollment policy dictates that housing assignments go to continuing students first. New students are accommodated next. New students seeking to enroll at LSC, are finding the housing shortage to be a primary factor in their enrollment. Students already focused on careers, are resorting to enrollment deferral, said Mimi McCaffrey, Assistant Dean of Admissions. As of October 26, Admissions held 41 deposits for deferred enrollment. These students intend to enroll either spring or fall semester. In contrast, this time last year the college had only 8 deferrals. McCaffrey added, there are always a few students who, faced with lack of housing prospects, do not follow through on the application process and are lost. Jonathan Davis said, in a similar note, that with the present competition for room space, students of any status need to be especially diligent in submitting their paperwork in order to guarantee a spot on campus.

While campus accommodations at the

beginning of the semester were scarce, the situation remained fluid. During the first three weeks of the semester, 2-15 overflow students were temporarily housed at the Lynburke Motel in Lyndonville. Students reportedly accepted the temporary accommodations without major complaint and have since been moved on campus. Reports have it, that one student actually enjoyed motel living.

In off-campus housing, the college regularly accommodates 16-17 upperclassmen in St. Johnsbury's 1867

House. While off campus housing may seem attractive to some, its attractiveness can sour when winter rolls around, especially with little convenient public transportation available. In addition to being inconvenient and expensive, the cold reality of living off campus means students have to shop, cook and clean up.

Vermont, a state with a tiny population of half a million or so (and corresponding revenues), requires its state colleges to be tuition-driven. For this reason, program expansion is becoming important, and

Continued on Page 12

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REGISTERING FOR SPRING 2005 COURSES DURING PRIORITY REGISTRATION

- Advisors will have access to students' degree audits and transcripts on-line. However, it is recommended that students print off a copy of their degree audits to take to their meeting with their advisor.
- Students and faculty should be able to view the Spring schedule at MAPLE.VSC.EDU by the end of the day on Monday, October 25th. MAPLE is also available through the LSC portal (Blackboard).
Printed copies of the schedule will also be available at the Registrar's Office.
- Students should set an appointment time with their advisor, preferably before their registration date, to discuss the students' requirements for the Spring semester.
- With the approval of your advisor, you will be able to register yourself for Spring classes, through MAPLE, per the registration schedule below. Otherwise, you will register for classes with your advisor, or your advisor will sign a written form and you will register directly at the Registrar's Office window.
- Print a copy of your schedule to verify the classes for which you are enrolled. Be sure to check credit hours and time slots. If you have questions, see your advisor or the Registrar's Office staff.
- Remember, ultimately YOU are responsible for ensuring that your schedule is correct.

SENIORS (90 or greater earned credit hours) Monday, November 1, Tuesday, November 2

JUNIORS (60 – 89 earned credit hours) Wednesday, November 3, Thursday, November 4

SOPHOMORES (30 – 59 earned credit hours) Friday, November 5, Monday, November 8, Tuesday, November 9

FRESHMEN (0 – 29 earned credit hours) Tuesday, November 9, Wednesday, November 10, Thursday, November 11

ANY CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS Thursday, November 11, Friday, November 12

Dixon moderates debates on debates

By Ryan Millet

Professor Bob Dixon hosted Debates on Debates, Wednesday, October 14th. He donated his American Politics classroom and class time, while acting as moderator to Professor Janet Bennion and Assistant Professor Alexander Strokonov.

Strokonov chose to endorse the platform of President Bush. Bennion chose to support and defend John Kerry. Approximately thirty students were in attendance.

It had been planned for one student and one professor to take the sides of each candidate, but the lack of student volunteers forced the professors to debate by themselves. She volunteered to take the Kerry position only the day before the event. Strokonov sent out his request for volunteers three weeks earlier. Strokonov said this was more of a rehearsal, "I want more active enrollment of students in debate."

It is unclear when the main

event will take place or if it will take place.

Dixon opened the debate with a raspy, referee like shout, "Get ready to Rumble."

Bennion argued first, and she used up ten or eleven minutes of the fifteen given. Strokonov argued for more than the allotted time before both were given the chance for rebuttal.

Bennion talked of her appendix bursting after being included in past Bush health care cuts, "I was part of Bush's plan to take five million people off Health Care."

"Bush took away the safety net," she said "for people between insurances."

She concluded her argument by saying, "Kerry is pro-education, pro- health care and not focused on one section of the population. Kerry's plan is to focus on strong domestic policy and to stop alienating our allies."

Strokonov opened his argument by cueing up and showing a small portion of this year's first presidential

debate. Bush was discussing the way Vladimir Putin dealt with terrorism in Beslam, Russia. Kerry mentioned in his response that Putin's political opponents were being jailed. Strokonov stopped the tape and shouted, "Liar! He is Liar!"

"First option he is liar." Strokonov said of Kerry, "Second option, he is incompetent."

Strokonov went on to say, "I agree with Professor Bennion. I like former candidate Dean better than Bush or Kerry."

"He [Kerry] is defiantly flip-flopper."

Strokonov said of Bush's reasons for going into Iraq, "We got into that war because of reasons sometimes politicians can't say to public."

Strokonov finished his argument by saying, "We should have best weaponry in world if we are to lead world."

In her rebuttal Bennion asked, "Are we trying to be leader in world or looking out for what's best for America?"

Bennion concluded her rebuttal by saying, "There was no connection between Afghanistan and the attack on U.S. and Iraq."

In his rebuttal Strokonov said of the decision to go into Iraq, "There were two options before war, a world of anarchy or a world of order."

"Weak cannot be leader, and weak are not respected."

"Strong are respected. This country should be strongest economically and militarily." He said.

"Neither [candidate] are appealing. If I was girl I wouldn't chase either of them."

He closed out his rebuttal by saying, "Bush is realist. Kerry is optimist."

The last twenty minutes of the debate was dedicated to questions by the audience. There was no shortage of questions or comments. Dixon couldn't get to all of them before Bennion had to leave.

Scarce housing

from page 11

retention of the existing student population is essential. President Moore's report to the Trustees quotes last year's freshman retention rate was held at 66%, a figure the administration strives to improve.

The Admissions recruiting team works hard to win new students for Lyndon State. While they historically recruit within Vermont

and the surrounding New England area, they are beginning to reach south into Maryland and Pennsylvania. The LSC signature drawing programs, meteorology, broadcasting, and graphic arts, are well known. The close-knit campus community and rural environment adds to the LSC appeal. Emphasizing these attributes, an aggressive

recruiting campaign translates into growing enrollment and future expansion of the LSC campus. All things come at a price, however. "It's a Catch 22 between making the budget and keeping [the college] a close knit community," McCaffrey said.

According to several sources, the new dormitory under construction will

relieve much but not all of the college's housing problems. The building, scheduled for completion next year, is reported to be on schedule. In an aside, McCaffrey noted, "With so much riding on campus housing, I don't want to think of the consequences if it runs over [schedule]."

Death and destruction on Mt. St. Helen

By: Norman Johnson

Twenty-four years ago, Mt. St. Helens got our attention by blowing herself up after weeks of grumbling, shaking, and fuming. I was living in Central Oregon, two hundred miles away from the eruption. The nine hour event sounded like a distant roll of artillery fire. In 2004, when she began quaking and venting gas again, I recalled the 1980 eruption, and the guy I knew who was killed in it.

Western sunsets look uncannily Jurassic with conical, volcanic silhouettes in the background, hazy and fire-red with a bit of summer forest fire smoke in the air. Most Westerners don't admit feeling uneasy about living with the earth's largest powder kegs, but in 1980, when St Helens began quaking and venting gas in their back yards, it became primary conversation. The main topic, however, was: when, and how big was it going to be?

As law-enforcement agencies evacuated the Gifford-Pinchot National Forest and the surrounding counties, a few hearty people headed into the danger zone. They were largely members of the scientific community, a handfull of adventurers, and one old codger, owner of the Mt. St. Helens Lodge, who refused to leave.

When activity on the mountain began to escalate, my friend Burt told me that brother Bruce loaded his pick-up and drove to St.

Helens. As tension increased, we heard he was camped at scenic Spirit Lake, at the base of Mt. St. Helens; hanging out, and waiting for something to happen.

During the weeks leading up to the eruption, the lodge owner, Harry Truman, was in the journalistic spotlight with his salty, irascible character. People said he loved the media attention. Some said he the wouldn't evacuate because he was afraid to leave his property, some said he had rhetorically backed himself into a corner and couldn't leave.

Harry: "Evacuate? Hell no, where would I go? This is home."

Several times, Bruce called home from a pay phone at the lodge to say he was all right. The stage was set; we all held our breaths..

Geologists moved into the danger zone also. "Most geologists, including me, are 'catastrophists' at heart, so events like this and the movement of the San Andreas Fault near Palmdale are what we wait for," said Courtney Cloid, Region 6, National Forest Geologist, U.S. Forest Service. Geologists will ignore imminent death in order to witness something they have thus far only read about.

Sunday morning, May 18, at 8:32 am, the North slope of Mt. St. Helens collapsed, causing the top 1300feet of the mountain to blow sideways. At that moment, 57 people and 230 square miles

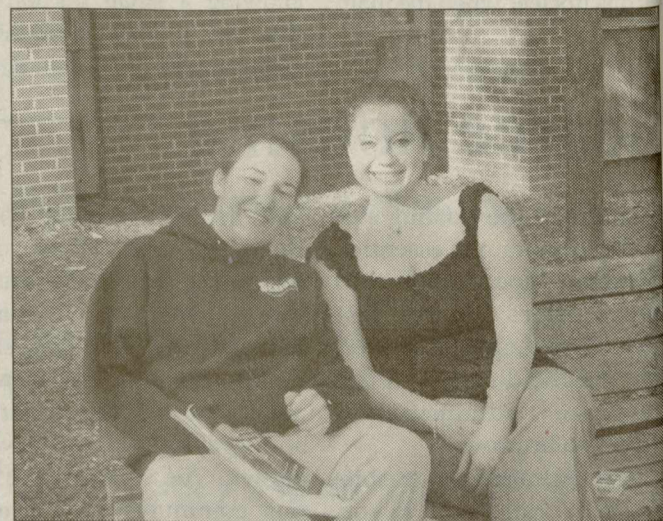
of old-growth timber environment, were subjected to a 300 mph, 1300degrees F. stone-filled apocalypse. The experts say people within the blast zone had just enough time to turn their heads. The last radio transmission from a young USGS geologist was: "Vancouver, Vancouver, this is it."

What it was like? We can only imagine. It was massive enough to completely displace Spirit Lake burying the original shoreline under 150ft. of ash and debris. As the mountain came apart, it created the largest landslide in history. Hundred thousands of acres of old-growth forest were uprooted, blown sideways in the direction of the blast, or left dead and standing near the outer blast boundary. The human victims were never found.

Months later, after the grieving. I asked Burt how he felt about his brother. "Bruce was one of those

guys who had to be in front row for everything. I wasn't truly happy unless I was riding the ragged edge of something. I imagine being close to something that huge, it was all over in a few seconds." I remember after a pause, Burt then laughed and looked square in the eye, "I'll tell you what I think really happened. I think Bruce and old coot were at the lodge on the porch, telling war stories and watching St. Helens smoke away at the other end of the lake. They were probably passing a bottle of whiskey when the two of them, Harry's sixteen car and his pink Cadillac, the porch, the lodge, the lake and one third of St. Helens were all blown into history."

It's anyone's guess about what happened at Spirit Lake that morning. I like Burt's story best, so that's how I remember it today.



Two LSC students enjoy the sunshine in the courtyard.

In the Spotlight

Jen Kirchoff

Age: 21

Sports Played at Lyndon: Softball Captain (Shortstop and 3rd Base), Soccer Captain (Defense and Outside Half), Hockey (Right Wing)

Hometown: Lyndonville, Vermont

Major: Allied Health Science and Physical Education with a Minor in Psychology

Favorite Food: Spaghetti's and mashed potatoes and ham mashed together

Worst Food: Meatloaf, Onions and Tomatoes, because the texture is "Goopy"

Favortie TV Show: General Hospital, Desperate Housewives and Dr. Ruth: The Sex Lady

Idol: Her Brother

Most Proud Achievement: Being picked for the U.S. Olympic Team Hockey Camp in Lake Placid

Favorite Pro Sporting Team: Boston Red Sox

Favorite Sport to Play: Softball

Marital Status- Dating

Biggest Dream: To be in the Olympics

Pet Peeves: Girls who wear too much makeup foundation and biggest one of all; Frosty

In Ten Years: "I want to be a GoGo Dancer"

Favorite thing: The Flexor

Best Male Personality? Matt Kelley

Best Male Dresser? Nick Rowe



LSC and UVM partner to offer doctoral in education

LYNDON CENTER, VT.—Lyndon State College and the University of Vermont have created a doctoral program in educational leadership and policy specifically targeted to the educational practitioners in the Northeast Kingdom that will begin in the summer of 2005.

This program will offer opportunities to expand the leadership capacity in the

NEK and build a community of leaders to address the unique issues presented by the geography, demography and culture specific to the area.

Dr. Judith A. Aiken, associate dean of the UVM College of Education and Social Services, and Dr. Bruce A. Richardson, director of the Northeast Kingdom School Development Center

(NEKSDC), and members of the new program's steering committee will hold an informational meeting to gauge interest, answer questions and present information about the program at Lyndon State College on November 23 from 4:30 to 6 p.m. in the Burke Mountain Room.

The NEKSDC, a partnership of the nine supervisory unions in northeastern

Vermont, was created in 2001 as a professional development clearing house. The center provides services to teachers, administrators and paraprofessionals throughout the area.

Anyone interested in the program or the informational session should contact Richardson at 626-6798.

SPORTS

From dodgeball to volleyball, intramurals have it all

By: Dave Poczubut

Each semester, most of the students here at Lyndon State look forward to one thing...the Intramural season. Intramurals are the non varsity and club sporting activities here at LSC. They are perfect for students who wish not to play varsity or club sports for any given reason, because they are designed to be a fun, non committing activity.

Sue Henry, the Intramural director, spends her time organizing the teams, schedules and games on a daily basis. Henry is the one who comes up with the certain types of Intramural sports that are

played each semester; however, any given student can start their own Intramural league and or sport with permission from Henry.

One of Henry's new creations in the Intramural world here at LSC; Dodge ball. There has been much hype about the sport that has been seen on Television as of late and many students were psyched by the start of it. Brett Bush, student at Lyndon State College says, "I can't believe we actually have Dodge ball now...I mean, how great is that!"

Besides Dodge ball, there are many other intramural sports that are played. Some of the more popular

ones range from 5 on 5 basketball to Coed Softball, to Floor Hockey. Although, Intramurals were designed to be a fun activity, some students take it to the competitive level, which is fine, but Henry is always around to make sure the games are played fairly and safely.

Each Intramural sport always kicks off with a regular season, followed by playoffs each semester, and when a team is the "last one standing" and wins it all, they are crowned Intramural champions of that sport and are rewarded by receiving an Intramural championship t-shirt. "I've won so many champi-

onships by now that I probably collect the t-shirts. Big Tymers 4-Life" says Bush.

To make the students like they play a large role in the Intramural league, they are allowed to make up their own team with their friends and even be creative and make up their own team name. Sue also gets the students involved in refereeing the games as well, because some of the students enjoy refereeing instead of playing.

Overall, Sue puts a lot of time into making the Intramural experience an enjoyable one for all.

I call, poker becoming a fixture on LSC campus

By Dave Poczubut

Recently, whenever you turn on the television, they couldn't help but find the game of poker on. This is no different for the present time at Lyndon State College. It seems that whenever someone is walking through the residence halls, they find a group of students playing "no limit, Texas Hold Em' poker."

Texas Hold Em' is a game of poker, where the best five cards win the hand, and although some groups play the game just for fun, the majority have money on the line. While some of those that have money on the line play only once in a while,

there are others that play almost everyday. There are even some students that play so much that they are scrounging up any bit of change that they have left to their name to play.

When asked to one student, who asked not to give his name, what he thinks of gambling as a disease, he replied with, "gambling may be a disease, but it's the only disease where you can win a crap load of money."

There has been talk around the school about the college wanting to ban all poker, although, not all poker being played is for money. One student replied to the thought of banning

poker with saying "Why would they want to do that? I mean, if you think about it, since there isn't all that much to be doing around here, would they rather have us playing poker, or drinking underage?"

With the game of poker being seen on television, where all the poker "legends" such as Johnny Chan, Doyal Brunson, Phil Hellmuth and others win thousands, even millions of dollars playing the game, some feel that they too can win that much playing the game as well. However, that isn't the case. Yes, while most of the students here only play for five dollars a

game, it can still be costly especially to those that play all the time. Some say that they will be able to control their gambling, however, most, the more you gamble the worse it gets and the more money you end up spending.

The National Council on Problem Gambling states that gambling is a serious issue, but that there are many ways to help. You can visit their website <http://www.ncpgambling.org/> for more information. You can even call their confidential 24 hour national helpline at 1-800-522-4700.

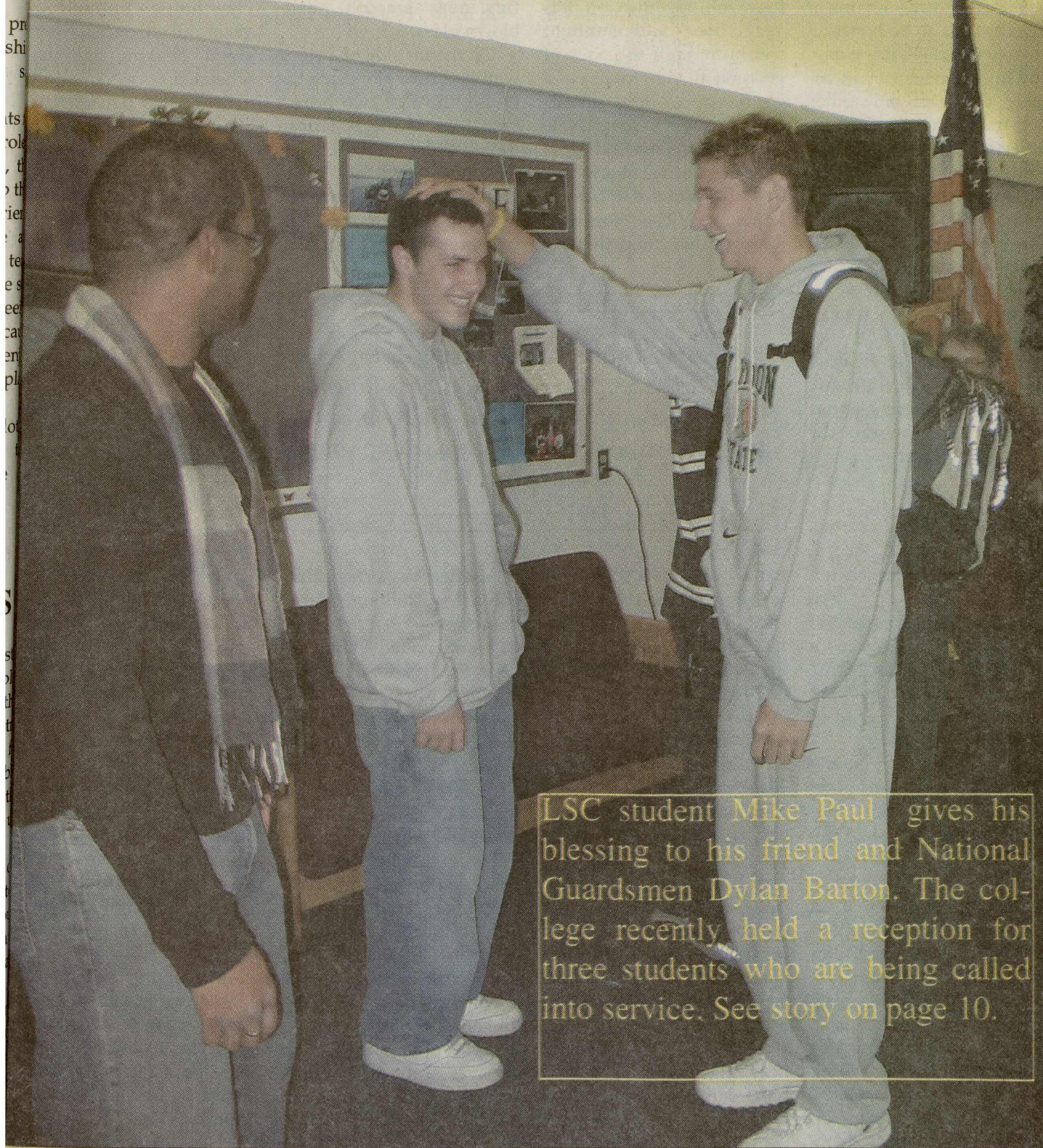
The Critic

"Serving the student voice at Lyndon State College"

Lyndonville, Vt.

Volume 51 Number 3

November 15, 2004



LSC student Mike Paul gives his blessing to his friend and National Guardsman Dylan Barton. The college recently held a reception for three students who are being called into service. See story on page 10.

A non-trad tramping at Walden Pond

Marla Sawyer
The Critic

I recently took a field trip to Walden Pond with one of my classes. To be honest, I was nervous about going; and my apprehension intensified when the only other non-traditional student in the class decided to stay home. I visualized myself bunking with three 21 year old party animals, like I had once been in the '80s. What was there for me to learn amid such a crew? I thought: No way, I am just too old for this.

But I went anyway. I booked my own private room, apprehensive about how I might fit in with the younger set, and dubious about what I might discover.

On Saturday our class walked all over Concord, Massachusetts. We visited the Old Manse, where author Nathaniel Hawthorne and his wife Sophia spent the first three years of their marriage.

The property was full of ghosts.

In a small study on the second floor, the tour guide pointed out where the young couple had playfully defaced the windows of their rented home. Nate & Sophia played together in this study during their first years of marriage, carving their names into the glass window pane with Sophia's diamond. Their writing is still there. His graffiti, then hers, -- together they defaced a wavy pane of glass that overlooks the

Concord River and North Bridge. How shocking.

I hear their laughter as they roll together on this very floor and sunlight shines through the pane of glass on all the promise and giddy expectations of this young couple in love. Nate is working on his first book. He does not yet know that he will write the Scarlet Letter and The House of Seven Gables, and that his

*I hear their laughter as they roll together
on this very floor and sunlight shines
through the pane of glass on all the promise
and giddy expectations of this young couple
in love.*

name will never die from the lips of American students. He's just an unknown young man in love with his new bride.

Before Nathaniel Hawthorne was even born, even more ancient eyes looked through that wavy pane of glass in the Old Manse and watched the history of the entire world pivot and flow forth in a new, unexpected direction. The "shot heard round the world" rang out over yonder bridge, and as the first shots of the American Revolution volleyed back and forth, their acrid smoke wafted on the breeze, brushing particles of carbon, saltpeter and sulfur onto this glass. As the war

began, Ralph Waldo Emerson's grandfather watched the battle through this new, smooth hand-blown glass.

On the far side of a stone wall that runs alongside the house, the first two British casualties of the American Revolution were buried right where they fell. Those young men were interred without ceremony, in unconsecrated ground like-

sons, and the substance of my country's history, among the ghostly hands of Hawthorne through the years, all at once. They stood, shaking and overwhelmed.

Later that day, our class also toured Emerson's house and walked to a pond from Walden Pond, about two miles away. At least in the pond, we walked some more. By late afternoon, Saturday, my creaking knees were about to give out. I limped painfully back to the school van and then straight to my motel room. My classmates were meeting for food and drink and a second night carousing, but I limped alone to my room and ordered a pizza.

Later that night, as I was trying to ease the aches and pains the long day had wrought on my body, a couple of guys from my class stopped by my motel room to give me some beer to go along with my pizza. What an unexpected kindness!

Over the course of the weekend I rediscovered just how wonderful a place Concord is for non-traditional students. Instead of treating me as one of their parent-weird friends, the other students accepted me as one of their own. Instead of a weekend full of laundry, children, house chores, homework and bills to pay, I was able to see the ghostly spirits of Nate and Sophia and the nameless soldiers who once were a part of our country.

Editorial

The Realm of Politics

Americans re-elected George W. Bush the first week of November.

The election revealed a nation divided. According to a poll conducted by the British Broadcasting Company, only 51 percent of the American nation felt pleasantly about the way the election turned out. What's about the amount of people who voted for the president. The race was incredibly close, less than two percent in some states.

As we head into the next four years, fear seems to be prevalent among the people. It differs from person to person, party to party what you are afraid of, but there seems to be two main qualms.

People who voted for Bush are afraid of the terrorists, and people who voted against Bush are afraid of our president and the government as a whole.

Everyone knows the saying that a nation divid-

ed against itself can not stand. Will we break, shattering apart as fear splinters down the spine of our nation, burning through the hearts and mouths of our people, causing us to turn on each other? Probably not. Will we remember, as politician Barack Obama pointed out, that there is no conservative nation, no liberal nation, but rather an American nation? Probably not.

Will we make it through

the next four years, regardless of who is in office and whatever may happen? Yes, because there is always another election and another hope just around the corner, in another four years. The world is always changing, and we are changing with it.

Letters to the Editor:

Dear Editor,

At a recent Vermont State Colleges' Board of Trustees meeting Chancellor Robert Clarke proudly announced that Vermont's gubernatorial candidates and many legislative candidates saw higher education in Vermont as a campaign issue. Vermont's higher education institutions help fuel our state's economy. He went on to say that a public issue gains credibility when it becomes a discussion item at the grocery checkout lines.

One component of the

higher education issue is the unresolved VSC-United Professionals' contract for the professional and technical employees at Lyndon State College, Vermont Technical College, Castleton State College and Johnson State College. For over two years we have been negotiating our first system-wide contract. A critical issue is equity, pay equity and workload equity across the Vermont State College campuses. While on paper professionals may have similar job descriptions from one campus to another, in actu-

ality there is considerable discrepancy among job duties and salaries.

As people have their grocery checkout line discussions I would hope that they discuss the vital role higher education plays in our state. I would also hope that they, as well as Chancellor Clarke, recognize that the Vermont State College system needs to do the right thing and support the professional and technical employees.

Sincerely,
Linda Wacholder

LETTER POLICY:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. Generally, the Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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The Critic is a bi-weekly publication that serves the Lyndon State College Community. Feel free to send comments to critic@lyndonstate.edu

Wintels is the new member of LSC's weather team

Ryan Millet
The Critic

Werner Wintels, LSC's new Assistant Professor of Meteorology, enjoys the atmosphere here. "I like the idea of teaching at a small school. I enjoy the close working environment with students. You really get to know your students."

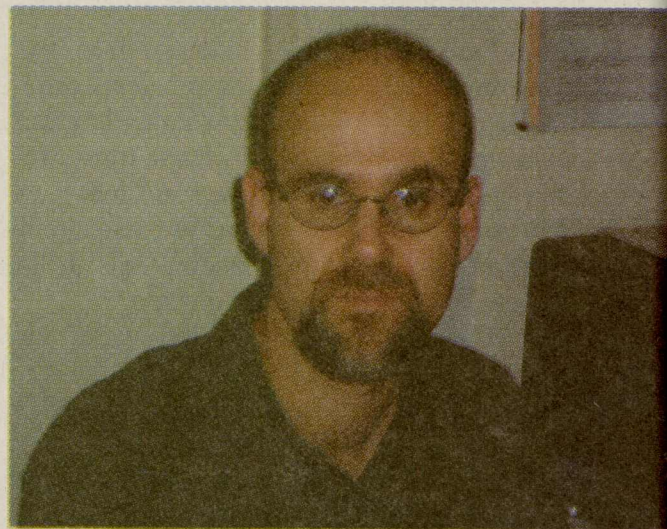
When asked, what attracted him to LSC, Wintels said, "I was looking for a job teaching meteorology where the school is more focused on teaching meteorology than doing research. I was also attracted to the rural setting."

Wintels is originally from Montreal, Canada. He earned his BA in meteorol-

ogy at Concordia University in Montreal. He earned his Master's and PHD from McGill University also in Montreal. He taught Meteorology part time at McGill while finishing up his PHD work. Wintels has taught Social Science and Science at Chibougamau High School in Montreal.

Wintels lives in East Burke with his wife. He rides his bicycle to work. "It's a beautiful commute," he said, "despite the large hill I have to climb."

When asked if he liked it here, he said, "I like it a lot. It's a lot of work. The students are enthusiastic and fun. I'm enjoying it!"



Werner Wintels

"I'm not enjoying the flu and so many people being sick around me." He said after a few sniffles and clearing his throat. "I guess

stock up on Echinacea, and wash your hands a lot."

Wintels has been playing hockey since he was

continued on page 1

Advertise in The Critic!!!!

A smart choice for your business!

The Critic is Lyndon State College's Campus newspaper. With an estimated seven issues each semester (about one every two weeks) and 1,000 copies circulating throughout the campus and the surrounding community, The Critic can be the perfect resource for your business or organization to really spread the word!

The Critic is now offering advertising space among its information-filled pages. The Critic's sections contain news stories on LSC's biggest issues, letters and editorials from students and teachers, and stories and cartoons created by students at LSC.

The LSC community consists of over 400 traditional college students, 700 commuters and non-traditional students, and 300 professors and employees, all of whom are a large and important part of the surrounding community's economy.

Placing ads with THE CRITIC is easy,

To submit an ad to The Critic, send a copy of your ad with a brief drawing or explanation (if needed) and a check written to The Critic at:

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Lyndonville, VT
05851

...or drop off your ad at the Critic office on the first floor of LSC's T.N. Vail building, Room 104. If you have any questions, or need more information call, 626-6200 ext 6215

LSLSC has new exercise science professor

By: Dave Poczobut
The Critic

Associate Professor of Exercise Science, Anthony Sgherza, is one of the seven new full time professors that are now able to call Lyndon State College, home.

While this may be Anthony's first year teaching at Lyndon State College, he has taught before at Brooklyn College in New York City for the past 5 years teaching Physical Education and Exercise Science. Anthony says that both Lyndon State College and Brooklyn College are "parallel" to each other in respects to the students, staff and college as a whole.

Anthony earned his Undergraduate degree at the University of Pittsburgh, while getting his Graduate degree at Long Island University. That wasn't it for Anthony however, as he then completed and received his PHD at New York University a few years

later.

Lyndon State College was the choice for the new professor because of many different reasons. One big reason that stands out is for the opportunity to see a growth in the exercise science department as he has a passion for it and hopes to see it move forward. While he was in the city for the past 5 years, where he says that he has family there, another reason he chose Lyndon State was because of its location. Anthony loves the outdoor activities, such as hiking, and says that while he enjoys the city life, he can't hike "Spruce Peak" unless he's here.

When asked what his goals were for this year, he responded by saying that he hopes to motivate the student body in exercise science and have them gain a better understanding of the evolution of the discipline that comes with it. He also wants the students to gain

the knowledge that there are a plethora of career choices that come with exercise science.

Anthony says that with teaching comes many challenging aspects of the position and he hopes to overcome those challenges. He says that he will find it challenging to meet the standards and guidelines that are set by both the National Strength and Conditioning Association as well as the American Collegiate of Sports Medicine. On top of that, he knows it will be a challenge to meet the academic standards as a whole, but knows it's a challenge that he is ready to take on.

When asked what he looks forwards to most, he responded with working with the students and helping them succeed to become whatever it is they set their goals to. While he enjoys teaching all of his classes, he truly looks forward to the classes where he is able to



Anthony Sgherza

teach things related to exercise kinesiology because he finds that those are ones that are the foundation courses to exercise science.

On the side of things, while Anthony has a love and passion for his students and exercise science, he also has a love and passion for baseball, and is an avid New York Yankees fan! He says that he looks forward to this years playoffs and hopes to get his hands on some World Series tickets in October in the Bronx.

Newsday editor shares his experience with TVS students

By Norman Johnson
The Critic

Anthony Marro, recently retired Editor and Executive Vice President of Long Island's Newsday, was guest speaker in Asst. Professor Timothy Lewis' Television Studies class October 7. Mr. Marro, 62, wrote for Newsday for thirty-five years with assignments to The Washington Post, The New York Times, and Newsweek. He is also a published author and worked on

several Pulitzer Prize winning investigative teams. Mr. Marro began his career at sixteen, reporting sports for the Rutland Herald. He attended Castleton State College in Vermont and Columbia University.

"I'm a newspaper person; an old fashioned print guy," Marro said. "We wrote everything out by hand on typewriters then. Computers have made that much easier.

With the coming of twenty-four hour cable news and

talk shows, the lines between journalism and entertainment are blurring, Marro says. In many cases, the product is more about how the story felt than about what happened. Fox and Hard Copy illustrate this trend. "Everyone has an agenda. They come and go...At the heart of it all is journalism.

Journalism's primary mission is to inform people. If the mission becomes more agenda, it quits being jour-

nalism," Marro said. "Bloggers can talk about what they feel at the moment. With traditional journalism, many stories never develop to the point that they break." He acknowledged the internet is a phenomenon. "But the internet really doesn't build a community like the Boston Globe or the Rutland Herald. People miss out on what is going on in the community."

Marro states journalism is

Continued on page 8

The Weather Channels' storm chaser to appear at LSCA

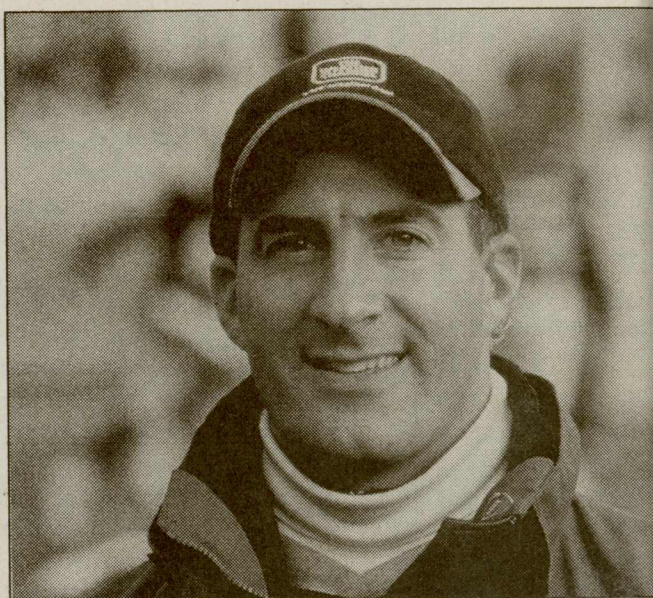
LYNDON CENTER, VT.—The Weather Channel's Jim Cantore will teach a class at Lyndon State College this month that will kick off with an open presentation on Friday, November 12. Cantore, who graduated from Lyndon in 1987, has been at The Weather Channel for 18 years and is known throughout the world as the station's storm chaser.

Over the years, Cantore has maintained his connection to his alma mater and has chosen this unique way to give back to the college. On the weekend of November 12 to 14, he will teach a one-credit course to a select group of seven meteorology broadcasting upperclassmen and women, demonstrating on a one-to-one basis best-practices for reporting the weather over the television medium.

Cantore set up the class, "Television Weather-casting," with the help of LSC Meteorology Department chair Bruce Berryman, who explains that this is the first of a series of courses that Cantore will offer at LSC over the next four years.

"I am thrilled that we can offer this course to our students," Berryman said. "Since the students grew up watching Jim on The Weather Channel, you could say he was their first meteorology instructor. His return to offer this course not only shows his appreciation for LSC but also his commitment to helping the next generation prepare for success in meteorology broadcasting. Certainly, Jim's class will be a valuable and memorable part of our students' LSC experience."

During his presentation on November 12, Cantore



Jim Cantore

will talk about his years at The Weather Channel, his experiences chasing storms and what he has learned about television and weather-casting. He will also screen video highlights of his work.

The first session of the course, scheduled for Friday, Nov. 12, at 7 p.m. in the theater classroom, is free and open to all. The theater classroom is located above the Alexander Twilight Theatre.

Not every family is normal at Thanksgiving

Marla Sawyer
The Critic

A lot of us tend to think that other people come from normal families. Rest assured, I do not. (Though my mother says otherwise.) As we head home for Thanksgiving, we might want to take deep cleansing breaths, brace ourselves, and realize things could be a lot worse. Realize too, that since there is an actual web page called Dysfunctional Family Holidays, we are not alone!

I have a couple of bub-

ble-dwellers in my family: these two (nameless) women live in happy little fantasies, and woe to us all if anybody tries to interject any truth into their views. Past holidays have been utterly ruined by some self-righteous pontificator trying to force them into reality. Hysterical breakdowns ensued. Both of them talk in sing-song voices and say things like, "Oh, isn't this lovely. Everybody is so happy. And I heard from Aunt Dee, she sounded great — she's just doing fabulous in

rehab — you know, all she needed was a little rest at a spa . . ." If cousin Joe steps outside to get stoned, or cousin Kitty introduces the fourth guy she has lived with since last Christmas, it's all perfectly normal and lovely.

I used to get upset with the neurotics in my family, mainly because I was one of them. Especially in my early twenties, I felt fully justified in demanding that my family shape up and get normal. Deal with issues. Go to counseling. Try Prozac.

Now that I'm moes accepting of my own flaws, though, I tend to accept others for who they are well. If they're happy, then they don't need to change for me. This world would be drab without eccentricities. If cousin Joe is stoney again, I'll just pass him more food.

And I'll never pretend to remember the name of Kitty's new dude. I'll just smile sweetly, chat pleasantly, and know I'll never see him again any way.

CA fine day of hunting Geese with Alex

By: Norman Johnson
Critic Staff

I'm so ambivalent about hunting that when a buddy invited me to go goose hunting, I had to think where I had stashed my shotgun. We grabbed an hour of sleep after a long drive to the refuge. Bleary-eyed, we pulled on chest waders, and canvas coats padded with gear. We slunked through the game commission gate, with Alex's Shorthair bitch snoring back and forth, with excitement. As we walked the dike out into the marsh, the darkness closed around us; the only light was starlight and the luminous dial of my watch—5:00am.

"Say Alex, how do you know where you're going when it's pitch-black like this?" I said stumbling along in the dark.

"I follow the white tip of Abigail's tail," Alex said. "At the end of the dike, we'll wade out to the thickest reeds," he said. "You haven't been here before, eh have you?"

"Too much work, not enough play," I said.

"Makes anyone kind of a dull guy, don't it?" Alex said. "Stop a second, I want you to hear something."

The noise of waders, clanking shotgun, thermos, and gear ceased. Over my labored breathing came small splashes, peeps, quacks, and a hundred other strange wet sounds of a wildlife refuge at night. A large unseen flying "some-

thing" whooshed overhead, then was lost in the noise of the marsh.

"What was that?" I asked, perplexed.

"Geese coming in from over the escarpment," Alex said softly. "The air flowing through the feathers of many wings is a sound I could listen to forever."

Alex took a compass bearing at the end of the

home back in 1962; all six of us, the oldest looking out for the youngest." Alex lit a cigarette. The flare of the match briefly illuminated his lean face, then went out, leaving the fiercely glowing coal of the cigarette.

"Our old man was a mean son-of-a-bitch. We got tired of the beatings and we decided to leave one night. It took us a month of hitch-

ing.

After two combat tours in Vietnam, he was still jumpy.

"The first winter we spent in Alaska, we lived on moose," Alex said. "Every two weeks or so we'd put another one out of his misery. We got really tired of moose meat."

"I'll bet," I said.

"It was more than just being tired of it: half-way through the winter, we all started getting, mean, irritable. We'd have starved to death if some old-timer hadn't told us to eat something besides moose; the moose were barely existing on moss and tundra. Further down the food chain, we were doing worse than that."

The gunfire had kicked most of the ducks and geese out of range. Any birds in the air were looking elsewhere to put down. Abigail, shivering with pent-up energy, glared at Alex.

"I know, girl," Alex said, then to me: "she's pissed. 'It's definitely not hunting weather, with a clear sky like this,'" I said, "any goose within fifteen miles will see us hunkered down in the mud trying to hide behind these flimsy reeds. We stick out like a couple of water buffalo in a rice paddy."

"Well, at least we got out of town; that's the important part," Alex replied. "You have to go with the flow of the moment; you never know

"You never know when your number will be called," Alex said. "The hippies with the 'Here and Now' stuff were right on."

dike. We then left solid ground and waded out into the marsh. We slogged for about half an hour until I felt the tall tule reeds of the marsh close in around us.

"This should do," Alex said over the noise around us. "...won't know for sure until light if we are in the right spot or not."

We fashioned a blind with a reed raft to get up out of the cold water that chilled us through the rubber waders. Abigail whined quietly; the first light blush of dawn began to color the distant horizon.

"Reminds me of Alaska," Alex said.

"You were there with your family, right?" I asked.

"Well, kinda. Me and my brothers ran away from

hiking to get to Fairbanks, but that was a trip to the beach compared to what we left at home.

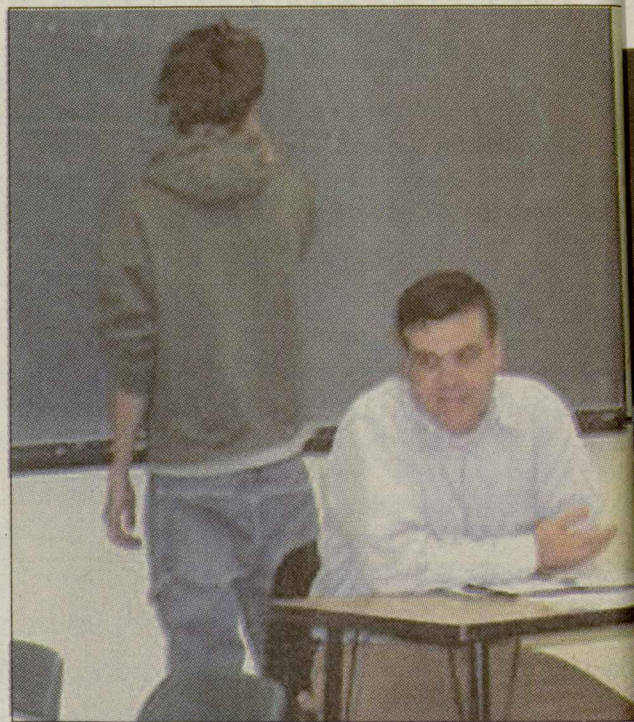
"The oldest brothers took turns getting us young ones to the school bus in the morning. Sometimes a bear or a moose would come out of the brush and chase us up a tree." He added, "as the winter wore on, and the moose got more ornery, we finally built a platform up in one big tree to get away from the big bastards."

By now, the sky was red-orange, burning through the mist hanging over the marsh. At official sunrise, the game commission's bull horn went off and the marsh erupted in a war of shotgun blasts.

"Jesus!" Alex said jump-



MEETING OF THE MINDS—Vermont State Colleges chancellor Robert Clarke (l) speaks with Lyndon State College president Carol Moore (r) just before starting his noontime information session at the college on Tuesday, November 9. Clarke, who has been VSC chancellor for six years, makes annual state of the VSC presentations to each of the system's five colleges. This year, his presentation included such facts as the number of VSC employees (over 2000, Vermont's fifth largest employer), VSC enrollment (12,040, up from 9,834 in 1990) and state appropriation per student (\$3,382 in fall 2004, down from \$3,342 in fall 1990).



FORMER STUDENT RETURNS—Michael Mason, assistant vice president and project manager corporate real estate, for Boston Private Bank & Trust Company, recently spent a day at Lyndon State College, when he shared professional experiences with the Field Practicum Ski Resort Management class. Mason earned a degree in Recreation Resource and Ski Resort Management at LSC in 1993. The field practicum students Mason spoke to will spend most of the semester visiting as many as 10 different ski areas where they will participate in fall mountain operations work and meet managers and supervisors to discuss resort trends and issues including philosophy, technology and guest service.

Marro

Cont'd from page 5

much more dangerous now than it was five years ago. "Even in Vietnam, a journalist could jump a helicopter out of the field and into town."

Marro was asked what makes a good reporter. "It involves a lot of honesty and common sense, though that's not as easy as it sounds," he said. "Tell the news without

being a jerk; use common sense to start with." Here are Marro's guidelines for future reporters.

1. Before interviewing anyone, know your subject and the facts. Be prepared.

2. Check and recheck your facts; don't assume that even public records are accurate.

3. Be conscious of the many angles of a story. "All of life is

Rashemon." *Rashemon*, a Japanese novel, is the story of a murder told through the eyes of the principle characters: the stories of the victim, the perpetrator, and the witnesses; there are many ways to tell a story.

4. People really do believe what they read in print. Words have importance.

5. To tell a good story, you can't always avoid hurting peo-

ple.

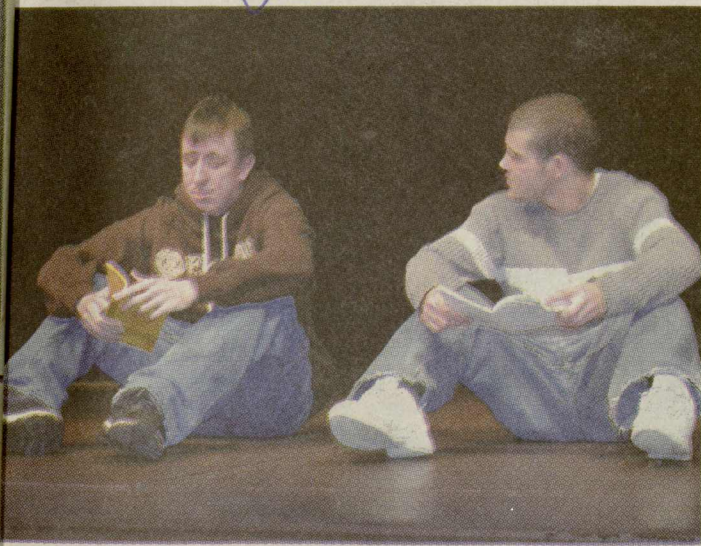
6. Presenting the truth doesn't give you the license to be a jerk.

7. Determine what the impact of a story will be, not what people suppose it will be.

8. A good story can cut through red tape like a razor.

Marro learned many of these basics working at the Rutland Herald.

'Bang the Dumb Slowly' opens soon at Twilight Theatre



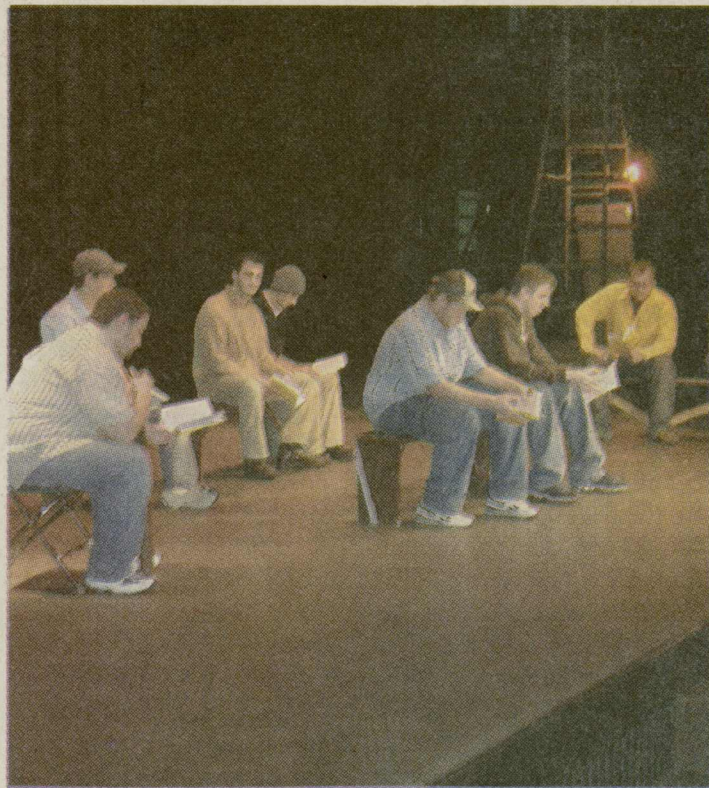
A dramatic comedy, about a 1950's baseball team, is actively in rehearsals at Lyndon State College under the direction and guidance of professional actor and director John Walker, adjunct part time professor. Mr. Walker is sharing his personal experiences on a few of the numerous shows he has performed

in with the cast. The intense, hands-on training has greatly improved many of the actors' abilities to perform live, and on stage.

They open with a Friday night showing at 8:00pm

The following performance will be Saturday at 8:00pm.

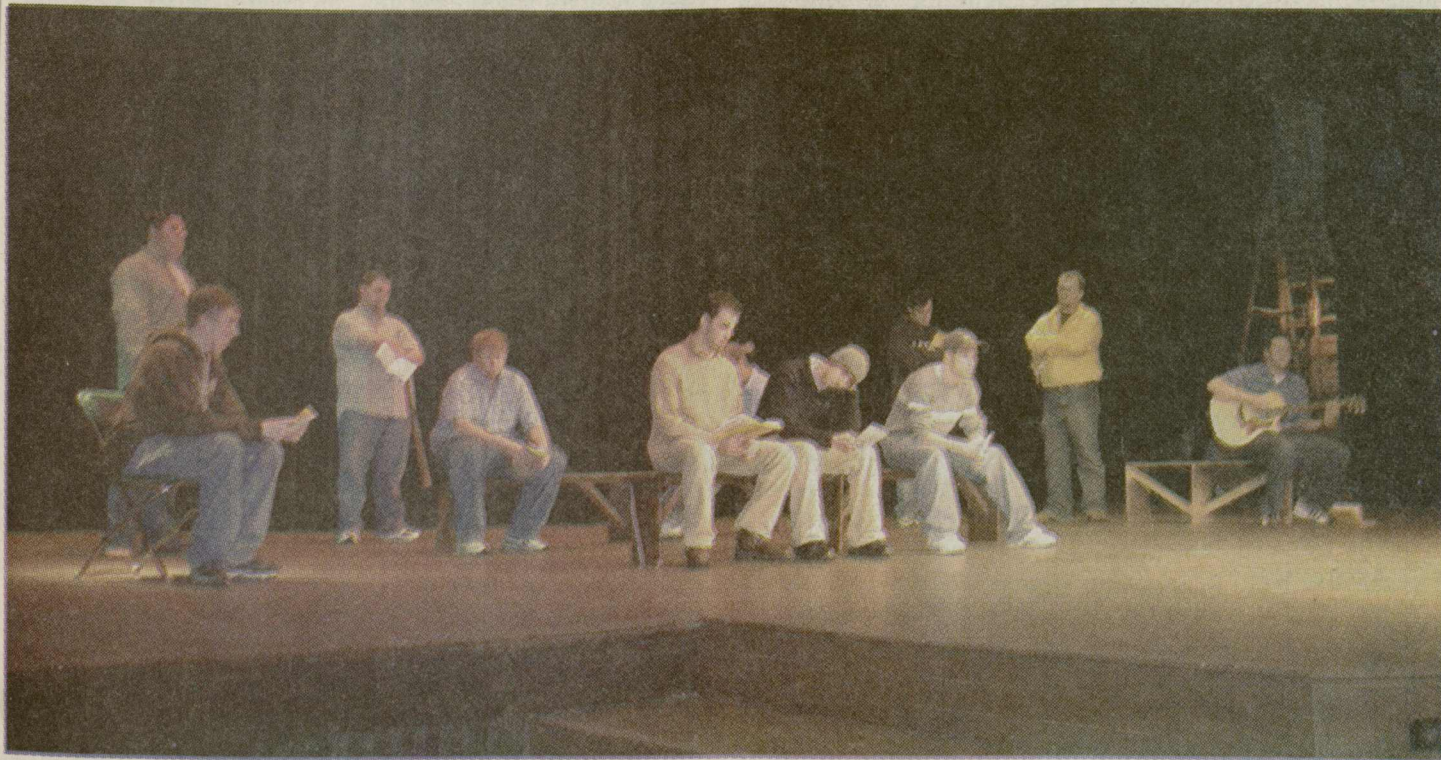
The one last show is Sunday afternoon, a mati-



nee scheduled for 2pm.

FREE admission! Come enjoy a night of theater that will take you away from

your everyday lives and bring you back to the time when baseball was young.



LSC honors departing National Guardsmen

By Ryan Millet
The Critic

LSC honored its departing soldiers during a reception in the student center on Thursday, November 11 on Veteran's Day. It was a standing room only crowd with about a hundred and twenty people in attendance.

The three students being shipped out in the near future are Dylan Barton, Robert Moses and Josh Roman. Before and after the reception the three students were bombarded with signs of support from all in attendance. The crowd included students, faculty, reporters and members of the community.

Most members of the audience voiced their concern about the students staying safe, and they hoped the students would see little combat. "I hope they stay safe and don't see combat," said Glen from maintenance, "I wish them luck. I think there are

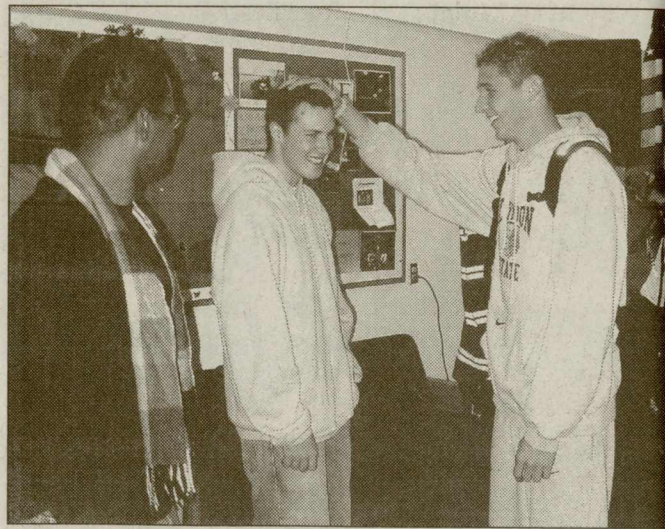
seven hundred and thirty people being called up from Vermont."

Many of the students' professors were in attendance. "I respect his values," said Linda Wacholder of Josh Roman, "I'm glad he's going to Kuwait and maintaining roads, instead of Iraq."

President Carol Moore opened the reception after most of the crowd dispersed from around the soldiers. She spoke of selfless service and responsibility to their country. She concluded her speech by saying, "We will keep them in our thoughts and prayers. Good luck."

"You don't have to agree or disagree with the war," Moore said later, "to support and respect the individuals who serve."

Several other speakers stood at the microphone, including new dean Donna Dalton. Dalton read a speech Eleanor Roosevelt gave dur-



ing World War Two.

"I'm not nervous. This is what I was trained for," said Josh Roman, "I expect to be in Kuwait for a year, rebuilding the country and roads. I'm really overwhelmed by the community support."

Dylan Barton, a member of the 3rd 172 Mountain Infantry, said, "I'm not nervous. I have confidence in my training. I leave Monday for Ft. Sheldon and in two

months I'm off to Southwest Asia."

Robert Moses, who has been in the National Guard for two years, said, "I'm doing what everyone should do. I'm going to Ft. Bliss, Texas then the Middle East."

The reception concluded with the audience singing a heartfelt version of our National Anthem.

Apple Cider and cake were served after the event.

Students march on president's house on night of Red Sox victory

On October 27, 2004, the night the Red Sox won the World Series, about one hundred students marched up to President Carol Moore's campus residence.

According to sources, the students were socializing in the courtyard after the Red Sox game, when someone yelled out "To the pond!" prompting the students to vacate the courtyard and head toward the pond. The march, however, didn't stop there. It continued all the way up the hill to the president's

house.

Once there, about forty students reportedly began chanting "Carol Moore... Carol Moore... Wake the f**k up!"

Campus security and three Vermont State Police officers were on scene to ensure things did not get out of control.

"The VSP were called proactively in order to be prepared for whatever might occur. There was an officer, the director of public safety and two students on duty that

evening. The Director of Residential life was also on campus, as well as the Residence Hall Directors and RA's," Associate Dean of Student Affairs Leo Seigny stated in an e-mail.

According to LSC student Kimberly Lesure, the officers did keep things in control. "Someone said 'Let's get in the hot tub', and the police officer stood in front of it," she said.

Students left the residence roughly ten to twenty minutes later, returning

to the courtyard.

Seigny believes that alcohol was not a large factor in the march. "I am positive that students were elated that the Sox won. As for alcohol, I think that played a very limited role," he said.

"There were people there who you thought you would never see out of their room.... like that geek you thought had no friends," said one student, who preferred not to be named.

Clubs offer diversity for a variety of students

By Ryan Millet
The Critic

There are a lot of clubs on campus ranging from the LSC Daggers, which is the snowboarding club, to the LAN party club which is focused on computer games. There are clubs for any student's interests or hobbies.

Students for Global Change, a club started two years ago, is more focused on political issues, the environment, student apathy and promoting awareness on campus. Since its beginnings, Students for Global Change has organized numerous events on campus, including a peace rally in the spring of 2002, voter registration drives and a politically motivated event with Bernie Sanders and some of this year's local candidates. One member said of the club, "At least we're getting the issues out there, so students can make up their own minds."

Students for Global Change meets every Tuesday at four o'clock in the Student Center. Inquires should be made to Amanda

Ruckdeschel.

Another club on campus is WWLR LSC's radio club. This club allows students and some members of the community to experience broadcasting a live radio show on the air. WWLR, the Impulse, broadcasts on FM 91.5. The Impulse has a broadcasting radius of about fifty miles. DJs are allowed to pick their own genre of music, and they are welcome to bring in their own music. WWLR also has an extensive library of music, which has been locked for the past three weeks due to uncontrolled theft and DJs not putting their selections away. When unlocked, DJs are allowed to use the music library for their shows. "WWLR's management team is too busy with other things to well regulate Impulse rules and policies. We don't have any meetings to address the issues," said a WWLR DJ.

The Impulse runs according to FCC policies and regulations. Any interested student can contact WWLR's general manager Jared Higginbotham. One mem-

ber said, "It's really fun doing my own radio show and getting to play whatever music I want on the air. It's wicked cool to see how a radio station really works."

Music requests can be made at 626-6213, 6213 on campus.

Lyndon State's Literary Society is a long standing club on campus. This club's focus is on the literary arts, the writing and editing process and providing a medium for students and faculty to express their artistic talent. "It's nice to have a club on campus," said one student, "that a person who enjoys writing can join to be with other writers and people who appreciate the literary arts."

The club annually puts out The Lyndon Review, a collection of fiction, photography, non-fiction, poetry and artwork. Submissions are open to anyone. The deadline for submissions usually around Halloween, though submissions can be made year round. Previous submissions have come from as far as Ohio and Maine. Members gain a bet-

ter understanding of the process it takes to put out a literary magazine by going through the selection, editing and publishing processes. The Lyndon Review usually comes out in the spring before graduation.

The club is also known for sending its members to the National Writer's Workshop, a conference of renowned journalists, authors and poets, in Hartford Connecticut in the spring. This gives members the chance to experience networking with people in the field of writing. Members get to hear tips, suggestions, stories of first-hand-experiences and unwritten rules concerning the field. "I learned a lot about writing for your public and how to go about getting something published," one member said, "The workshop has given me some ideas of what to expect from such a highly competitive field."

Any inquiries can be made to English Professor Chandler Gilman via school e-mail.

Business administration students can help local businesses

Local businesses in need of help with the formulation of business plans or assistance with specific business problems can get the support they need by working with a Business Administration student at Lyndon State College.

The projects will be undertaken in upper level

courses during the spring semester: The Small Business Plan, e-Business Fundamentals, Small Business Marketing & Sales and Small Business Problems. All work will be under the direction of the business owner, with the guidance of LSC faculty.

Confidentiality is a hall-

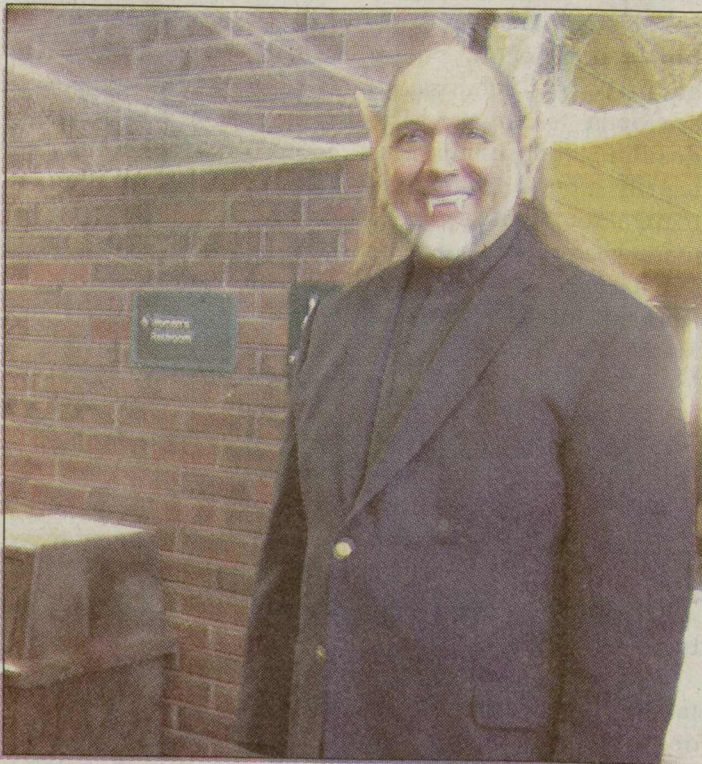
mark of the project, and students will sign confidentiality and conflict of interest statements before they begin their work.

Anyone interested in taking advantage of this opportunity should call 626-6227 for a "Request for Assistance" form. Requests must be received by

January 10, 2005. Business applicants will be matched with students who have the particular skills, talents and interests required by the project under consideration.

There is no cost to businesses involved in this program.

Competitors of the Halloween Costume Party strike a gruesome pose

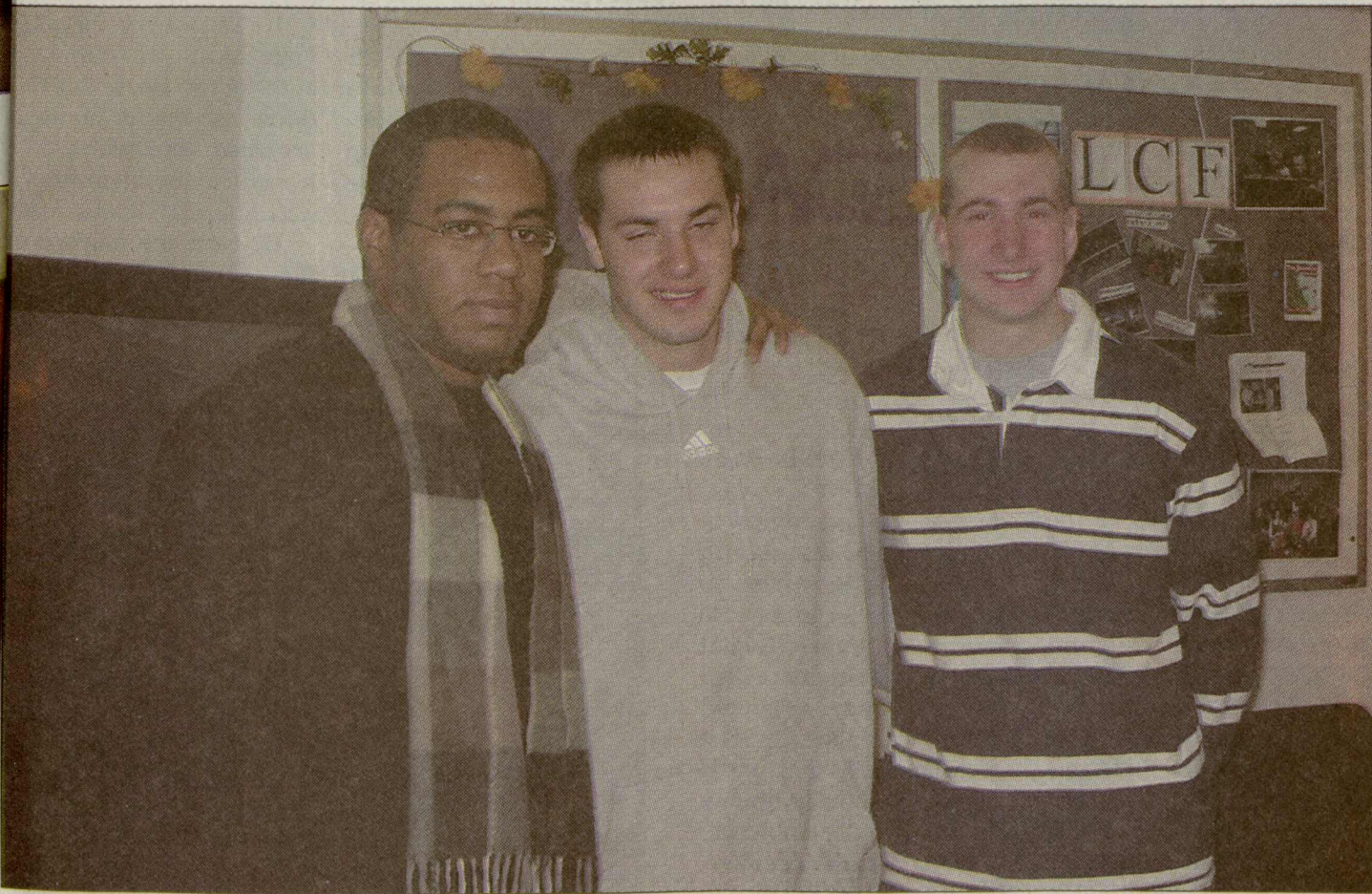
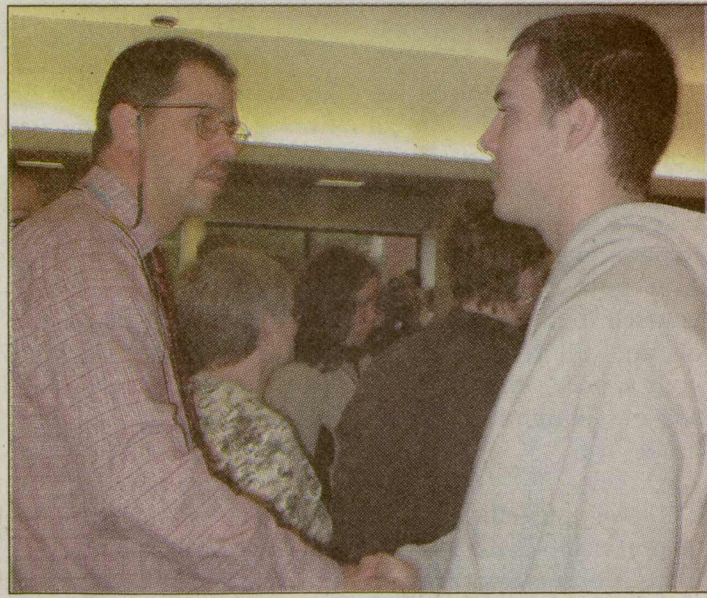


Music teacher Bill Cotte shows off his vampiric nature at the party.



A goulsh competitor stares intensely at the camera

National Guardsmen get call from Uncle Sam



Story on page 10

Oil changes are the easiest way to avoid problems

This article was taken directly from an online automotive page:
<http://www.kolias.com/automotive/oil.html>

Want to know the easiest way to extend the life of your car? That's right, changing the oil every 3000 miles is the most important thing you could ever do. And now, you can do it yourself. You can change the oil and filter in you and your spouse's car for about \$12 and 30 minutes of your time.

1. Buy yourself a case (12 quarts) of motor oil and two filters from any local store selling automotive items. They will have manuals to help you choose the proper filter for your car. As for the oil, buy the cheapest brand available. BUT, make sure the oil is API (American Petroleum Institute) certified. All certified oils will say so on the label.

2. Grab an old pair of

jeans and crawl under the front of your car. You will notice a relatively large tank with a bolt protruding from the bottom or side of it. That's the oil tank.

3. Place a shallow pan (wide enough to hold 4 or 5 quarts) under the discharge bolt of the tank.

4. Remove the bolt making sure not to round the edges. If you do round the edges of the bolt, use a vise grip in the future.

5. Drain all of the oil from the tank. It will easily flow out into the pan you placed under the tank.

6. Screw the bolt back in, making sure it is good and tight.

7. Now, locate the oil fil-

ter. It is normally within easy access somewhere on the side of your engine.

8. You will need a filter wrench to remove the filter. They are pretty inexpensive.

9. Place the filter wrench around the filter, and gently rotate in a counter-clockwise direction.

10. Remove the filter. There is oil in the filter, so try to pour it inside the pan under the car.

11. Screw in the new filter. This time rotating in a clockwise direction. DO NOT over-tighten. Once the filter makes contact with the engine, only rotate an additional 3/4 turn.

12. Pour the new oil into the engine. The cap is locat-

ed on the top of your engine usually marked "oil." Check your owners manual for proper amount, normally 5 quarts.

13. After you add all new oil, check the dipstick to assure the proper amount has been added.

14. Check under the car for any leaks.

15. Start the engine and check for leaks again.

16. Dispose of the oil at your local gas station or auto parts store. NEVER throw used oil in drains anywhere else where it is harmful to the environment.

17. Note the mileage on the car and repeat every 3000 miles.

Wintels — cont'd from page 4

kid. He is going to be the Assistant Coach for LSC's Hockey Team the ? . He organized an intramural team while at McGill, and he has hopes for LSC. He also hopes to find a team to play on in the area.

He is having trouble getting used to the colder climate here. "It is colder here than Montreal because of the mountains. Montreal is in a valley. Its climate is more similar to that of upstate New York.

He hasn't had any problems getting back and forth across the border when visiting his native country. He is surprised at the different type of questions asked since becoming a United States resident. "The Canadian Border Guards ask me if I'm bringing any firearms into the country."

He concluded the interview by saying, "It's nice to have a job so close to home."

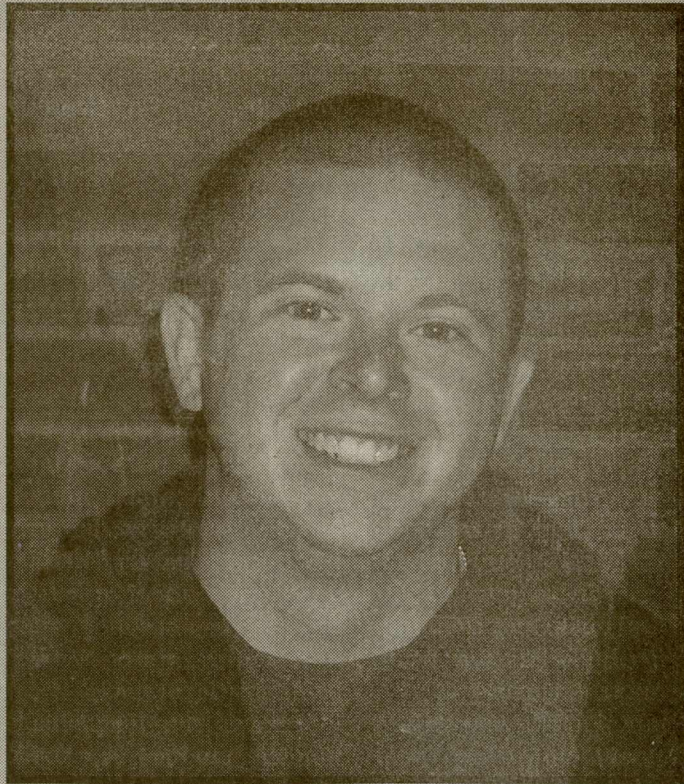


Bob McCabe serves free hot dogs to students.

In the Spotlight

Nick Rowe

Sport - Soccer (Captain) #40 Goalie
Age - 22
Hometown - Moravia, NY
Major - Sports Management
Favorite Food - Pizza & Pretty much anything
Worst Food - Squash and Tomatoes
Favorite TV show - Sportscenter
Most Stupid TV Show - Dr. Phil
Favorite Movie - Miracle
Most Stupid Movie - Bend it Like Beckham
Favorite Song - "I Love Nascar"- by Cledus T-Judd
Most Proud Achievement - Broke the National Saves
 Record in High School w/ 1130
Biggest Dream - Play Professional Soccer
Favorite Professional Sporting Team - Boston Red
 Sox
Best Female Personality - Jen Kirchoff "Cause she
 had me in her Student Athlete Profile"
Best Female Dresser - Jake Toof
Idols - Anthony Moccia, Tim Howard and Mr.
 Anchorman, Ron Burgandy
Pet Peeves - People who gossip



Hunting geese

cont'd from page 7

when the Big Guy might call your number; I saw a lot of guys bite it in Vietnam," he said. "I told myself if I got out of there alive, I'd take time to enjoy life.

"When I was discharged, I took my accumulated pay down to a Chevy dealer in L.A. and bought the only red Corvette convertible on the lot. I threw my sea bag in the passenger seat and headed for Vegas. The fence posts were a blur as I kicked the Vette up to 100. I didn't stop except to gas-up and eat. Las Vegas was a trip, but I wanted to go home, so I headed north across the blasted, desert

wasteland, toward Oregon."

"I didn't know you had a Corvette," I said.

Alex nodded. "I was fifty miles from home. The Corvette was settled down to seventy and the car's Lake pipes were blowing a throaty roar that only a big-block V-8 can produce. I had the wind in my hair, and the warm, dry Oregon sun caressing my body. God's my witness, at that moment, I was as happy as I'd ever been in my life."

Alex shifted in the blind and abstractly stroked Abigail's head and ears with a mud-caked hand. "The drunk that hit me was

suddenly there, in my lane. I saw his eyes through the windshield, just before impact. Then there were many, many, rolls of the ruined Corvette plowing up the wheat field." He stopped and thought a second. "Because the county had only one was only o. I came to during the ride with an ungodly screaming beside me that was enough to wake the dead. It eventually stopped. I don't remember anything after that."

The morning sun was now high enough to warm us. Alex was sitting there, covered with mud, in his waders, the sleeping dog's

head in his lap.

"You never know when your number will be called," Alex said. "The hippies with the 'Here and Now' stuff were right on."

As I looked at him, the marsh around us came alive again, as if the volume had been turned back up.

"Yep, you're right." I said. "I don't care if I fire a shot today. What do you say we get out of these waders and find us a cold beer somewhere?"

"You're on." He said.

We walked through the Game Commission gate leaving a refuge generally having a riot of a fine day.

SPORTS

Berry eyeing return to the national tournament

By Dave Poczobut
Critic Staff

For the past four years, Eric Berry has coached the Lyndon State College Hornets. Entering his fifth year as head coach, Berry said that because this team is inexperienced, the top goal is to improve game by game, and that while he took over the program four years ago, the goal is the same today that of winning the conference championship. "At this level, I feel it is unfair to tell anyone that we are 'rebuilding' which we are not; we are 'reloading.'" Coach Berry said that it's the team's plan to play their best at the end of the season and "let the chips fall where the may."

Due to their overall lack of experience, it will be putting pressure on some of the players to play more minutes, Berry said, and with those extra minutes "taking a toll" on those players, it will be a challenge for the other players to "step up" and take that extra pressure off the experienced players.

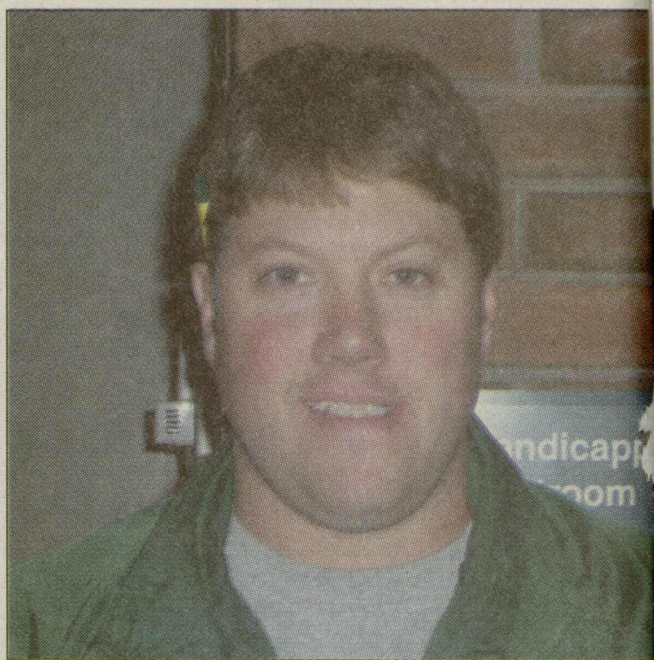
Offensively, Berry feels it is extremely important for the guards on the team to "pound" the ball inside to two of the team's centers, both freshman, Brad Durr, and Alex Ibey in hopes of creating an inside game. In the past, this year's team hasn't had this kind of size so Berry feels that the team should take advantage of it and utilize it. One of the

biggest advantages that Berry feels the team has is the home court advantage, saying that "the students here on this campus should be proud of the way they support this program in such a positive manner. It is my hope that they will continue to 'go crazy' in a tactful, well represented way for Lyndon State."

As far as the weaknesses go, Berry said that "the best teams find ways to get around their so called 'weaknesses.'" He also said that the bench needs to get stronger overnight and that it will be interesting to see if shooting and point guard star and captain, Kevin Trask can use his good decision-making from the point guard position. Berry said that he is confident that Trask, as well as the others on the team will step things up.

Berry said he also looks forward to a possible trip back to Branson Missouri, where the national championship tournament is held and played. To earn a spot in the tournament, the team needs to be the last team standing in their respective conference by the end of the regular season and playoffs.

The team started out the season by taking a trip down south to Florida and playing the #7th ranked team in the nation, Embry-Riddle, followed by the #18th ranked team, Flagler. Unfortunately, for the



Eric Berry

Hornets, it doesn't stop there, as they then come home to play a tough game on the road; they then have to follow that up by playing the #2 ranked team in the nation, William Jewell College.

"We have had recruits visit from all over the United States due to our strength of schedule. I'm very happy with this year's recruit class and feel our success is directly attributed to improving our schedule" said Berry.

Berry feels that overall, the schedule is a positive one this year for the team, because, although they only have one home game during the first semester, they are playing at home 90% of the time in the second semester.

When asked how this

year's team compares to year's team, which had game winning streak at point, he said that what 03'-04' team did "absolutely remarkable" therefore it will be hard this year's team to "live to those standards."

However, Berry said "our path may be the less taken. I'm not sure we'll go out and win games in a row, but I know that this group will be ready to play championship-caliber basketball down the stretch."

Coach Berry said the feels the possible change the NCAA is a "great move" for the college as they will now be able to recruit under the same standards Johnson State, Castleton State and others regionally.

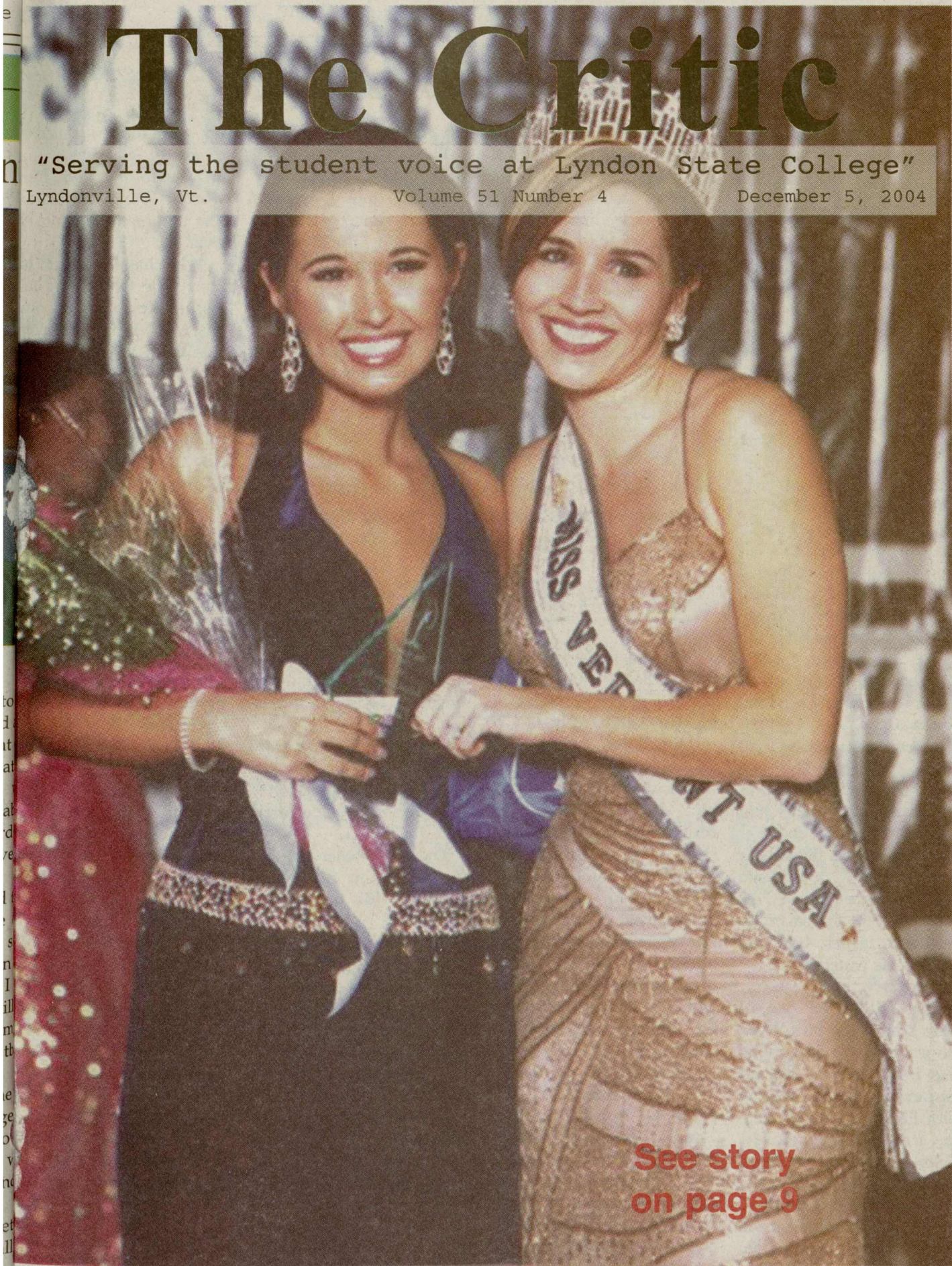
The Critic

"Serving the student voice at Lyndon State College"

Lyndonville, Vt.

Volume 51 Number 4

December 5, 2004



See story
on page 9

The angels of Comorford Reservoir

By Marla Sawyer

It was a sunny but cool Saturday in early June 1998 when my husband and I took our three children to a little cove near the Comerford Dam for a picnic lunch. Kevin, my willful middle child, was 7 at the time. We ate lunch at the top of a gently sloping cliff overlooking a small, deep cove in the Connecticut River. The pine trees framed a postcard view of New Hampshire across the river, complete with a red barn and verdant rolling hills.

Below us, at the base of the cliff, a mother and her school-aged son sunbathed by the water's edge, but otherwise the cove was deserted. No water-skis, no kayaks, no people; just the quiet, shimmering beauty of the river and a hawk circling overhead.

No cars approached, no hikers appeared. The cove was blissfully deserted as we ate our sandwiches and enjoyed the view.

"You kids can play along the beach," Tom told Sheila and Kevin after lunch. "It's okay to look for salamanders and turtles, but stay OUT of the water."

"Okay."

"We will!" The two of them scampered off toward the water, while Ethan who was 1 1/2 toddled toward the pines. Tom and I walked with Ethan around the picnic area, strolling slowly, picking up pine cones, and exclaiming over the ants, and birds, and butterflies.

Just as we completed the circuit back to the picnic

table, I looked over the edge of the cliff and saw Kevin swimming, trying to cross the cove! As he reached the deep, black center of the cove the weight of his saturated sneakers pulled him down, under the water. His hands shot up and splashed frantically as his blonde head sank below the surface.

The black water folded over his hair, a circle of light dimming, sinking and finally disappearing in the muddy depths of the black, swirling water.

Tom dashed down the face of the cliff, half sliding, half running, and dove into the water fully clothed.

Me? I stood paralyzed, and helpless, a non-swimmer with a toddler on my hip. I couldn't move. I couldn't breathe. Helpless I stood, watching my son die.

Kevin's blonde hair resurfaced in the midst of wild splashing and then sank again. The black water folded over his hair, a circle of light dimming, sinking and finally disappearing in the muddy depths of the black, swirling water.

He was gone.

I screamed "God, NOOOO! Don't take him --" and I threw myself down the cliff on my backside, with Ethan on my lap, sand and rocks flying in my face. I carved a slide down the slope, and I kept praying.

But I knew I couldn't swim.

Please God, please God, please God --

By the time Tom swam out to the center of the cove, Kevin had already been under the surface for an age. Tom dove.

The water fell still again. Silence thickened the air.

Seconds stretched out. And then, Kevin popped up

up -- one of them called distinctly, clearly, as if answer to my cry, "Don't worry! We're lifeguards!" The two men dove into the river.

What happened next is a blur. The two young men rescued Kevin and the other boy, while Tom swam alongside them to shore. Kevin fell onto the sand, face down, coughing and puking gallons of water into the sand. I hugged his skin-cold, wet body, pouring tears and thanks to God in his swampy hair.

Then I turned to thank the two young men who had saved them.

They were gone.

I sat on the beach, overwhelmed -- I knew that Tom and I had strolled the cliff with Ethan for just one minute longer, Kevin would have died. What made me look at precisely the right moment?

Today when I find myself worrying about Kevin (who is now a strong-willed teenager), I feel really helpless sometimes. Then I remember that day.

I suppose I won't know until I leave this earth whether God sent angels or men to save Kevin. I don't think it matters. I can't explain where those men came from, or how they knew we needed help, or where they disappeared to. Now, even in my helplessness, I have learned to rely and trust that all things work together for good in my life.

to the surface, coughing, with Tom behind him. I screamed again, in jubilation.

Tom towed Kevin toward the shore in the position he'd learned from his Red Cross lessons decades earlier.

Then that other boy, the one who had been sunbathing with his mother below us, paddled out towards Kevin and Tom. He began to struggle and to sink. He grabbed Tom by the shirt collar. The water churned, spray flew, and the two little boys and the man they clung to, all disappeared below the surface.

I screamed again -- Oh, God, help!!

Suddenly, from the other side of the cove, two strong young men appeared, running out from behind the far bank. I am not making this

Editorial

December first was also AIDS awareness day.

Nearly 40 million people are living with AIDS globally, and in the next two years, 10 million people are expected to die from the virus.

It's hard to watch the world suffer and not be able to do anything about it. Americans sometimes like to think of themselves as the hero that saves the day, but AIDS seems to be the kryptonite to our superman.

Many scientists are struggling to find a cure, but it remains difficult since the

virus mutates constantly. French scientists think they have the answer, which is to bolster the body's immune system. Britain has promised to support other countries in developing a vaccine. A few prostitutes in Africa have been found to be immune. And in New York, experimental AIDS drugs are being tested on orphans and foster children as young as three months old, 99 percent of which are black or Hispanic.

AIDS and HIV has become something of a stigma. When it was first dis-

covered, it was thought to only infect gay men, which we now know is far from the truth. However, prejudice about the illness is still prevalent world wide. It has been classified as one of the six diseases of poverty. Several celebrities have contracted the virus, and several movies have been made about the issue.

As we go into the season of giving, family and celebration, please remember to open your mind and your heart.

For more information, visit www.aids.org.

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The Critic is a bi-weekly publication that serves the Lyndon State College Community. Feel free to send comments to critic@lyndonstate.edu

Letters to the Editor:

Dear Editor,

The many community members who comprise the professional and Technical staff at the four sister colleges in Vermont, Castleton, Johnson, Lyndon and Vermont Technical College are dedicated to offering quality education to the students of Vermont. It is a well recognized fact that a college degree enhances

your prospects of getting a job you enjoy and one that pays more so you can improve your quality of life.

However, the employment practices at the colleges do not necessarily afford that prospect to its employees. As a result, in April, 2002 the professional and technical employees at the four state colleges, in concert with the United

Professionals of Vermont / American Federation of Teachers in Burlington voted to unionize.

As contract negotiations progressed, impasse was reached in June of 2004. A Federal mediator was brought in and mediation continued until September when no more compromise could be agreed upon, so we

LETTER POLICY:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. Generally, the Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

Letters
The Critic
LSC Box 7951
Lyndonville, VT 05819

LSC's clubs offer diversity on campus

Ryan Millet

There are many clubs on campus for students to occupy times of boredom. There are over twenty clubs on campus that range from the Dance Team to Lady Hornets Hockey.

The Role Playing Club (RPC) is one club that offers live interaction and activity with other members. The RPC is focused on role playing games. These games are usually fantasy or science fiction type games. Members chose characters, and they play against each other for supreme dominance of the game or to be first to complete a mission or quest. The conflict and resolution usually comes about by the players rolling dice. They do play some live action games where partici-

pants get more physically interactive. President Josh Gervais said, "It is a really fun social activity."

People are allowed to join the club whenever they want. They meet for Table Top on Thursdays at 8:00 pm and Live Action Role Play on Fridays at 8:00 pm. All meetings are in Vail 421. The second weekend of next semester members will meet to write and design their own Role Playing Game online. Some of the games they play include Dungeons & Dragons, Vampire of the Masquerade and White Wolf. If interested contact Josh Gervais.

The Twilight Players is a long standing club on campus. They have been around since at least the early 1960's. The Twilight Players

is the acting troop on campus. They usually perform two plays a year. This semester they have worked hard on their rendition of Bang the Drum Slowly. Which was produced last weekend. The Twilight Players is one of the few clubs on campus a student can get three credits for being part of Professor Julie Theoret is the clubs advisor.

John Walker is the director of theater. He heads up the casting, acting, and production of the play. "Working with people like John Walker is an amazing experience," said Vice-President of the club Gillian B. Perreault, "He motivates people to do their best and forget about their insecurities. As an actor in his productions, you walk away

with a sense of accomplishment and pride." Any interested students can contact John Walker, Reg Rooney, or Gillian Perreault.

The Critic is the student newspaper, which functions as a club. The Critic meets once a week to discuss articles and to assign assignments. The Critic comes out every two weeks. It has changed its format this year from a tabloid to a magazine format. Students get an opportunity to be part of a real newspaper and experience how one works. Some members also attend the National Writers Workshop in Hartford, Connecticut during the spring semester. Any interested students should contact Rachael Morrow or the club's advisor Alan Boye.

Career services calls out for roadtrippers

LSC has an opportunity to be among the first 100 campus chapters of Roadtrip Nation, an organization that is defining the current generation's search for their own roads in life. LSC Career Services will sponsor a RTN campus chapter if there is interest among LSC students. Chapter members will interview people about their life stories and have these interviews posted on the Roadtrip Nation website. Check out the website at www.roadtripnation.com. Borrow a DVD from Linda Wacholder to view past roadtrips. Contact Linda Wacholder at linda.wacholder@lyndon-

state.edu or x6441 by December 16th if you are interested in creating a LSC RoadTrip Nation (RTN) chapter.

If LSC hosts a campus chapter we will be among the first chapters when Roadtrip Nation launches student chapters across the country on January 1, 2005. This will give the LSC chapter an opportunity to apply for Roadtrip Grants to hit the road locally, nationally, or internationally. With our chapter affiliation LSC students also will be eligible to apply for the "Behind the Wheel" Program - A program that selects students to hit the

road with RTN each summer and interview leaders from across the country.

In the fall of 2001, a group of recent college grads who had no idea what they wanted to do with their lives, decided to take a roadtrip to figure it out. The group roadtripped around the country for 15,000 miles in a 31 foot bright green RV, interviewing leaders from all walks of life simply to learn how they got to where they are today.

To share this experience with their generation, the group filmed the entire roadtrip, in hope of making a grassroots documentary about the experience.

Shortly after returning from the debt-financed trip, an article ran in *Forbes Magazine* that shared the roadtrip story on a national level. Soon after, the group was approached to do a book with Random House, and sponsors like State Farm and Apple Computers stepped forward to support the production of the documentary for PBS. People interviewed by Roadtrip Nation include Michael Dell, CEO, Dell Computer, Howard Schultz, Chairman & Founder, Starbucks, Jonathan Poneman, Co-founder, Sugar Pop Records, Nirvana's original record label.

Letter

cont'd from page 3

are now at the Fact Finding
step.

The issues we unionized
over were:

1) Ever increasing work-
loads. Because we are "pro-
fessionals", we are expected
to work as long as it takes to
get the job done". Many of
us willingly agree to "cover
the bases" temporarily when
changes in staffing happen
only to find that temporary
turns into permanent. And,
little or no consideration is
given to the fact that as the
student population increas-
es and the number of top
administrators increases,
the workload for the "pro-
fessional staff" also increas-
es.

As the colleges have
changed business models
and redesigned depart-
ments or simply decided not
to replace employees who
left their jobs, uncovered
duties have been "redistrib-
uted" to those left behind
under the guise of the "other
duties as assigned" clause in
all of our job descriptions.
Many of our members have
found themselves working
consistently 50-60 hours a
week to get the job done,
and still falling behind.
Because we are "profession-
als" we are not entitled to
overtime pay or compensa-
tory time.

2) The salaries of the
upper administration have

kept pace with comparable
positions on the national
level. Our salaries have not.
We find that new hires very
often are brought in at
salaries equal to or higher
than employees who have
been with the colleges for
ten, twenty or more years.
There is no provision within
the pay scale system the col-
leges uses to award increas-
es for longevity and compe-
tence except at the whim of
the President.

3) Job security is
another issue for us. Our
jobs are awarded on yearly
contracts. After evaluations
in April, we wait until
around May 15th to hear
whether we are offered

another year of employment
or not. The decision to con-
tinue our employment is
again at the whim of the
President. This adds to the
level of stress at the end of
every Spring semester.

We have asked key mem-
bers of the legislator to
intervene in our behalf. We
are striving for a system
whereby we can begin to
address excessive workload
issues and other grievances
in a consistent manner. We
are looking for equity, fair-
ness and even-handed treat-
ment of every employee and
a degree of financial security
for our families. We also ask
for your good will and sup-
port.



Students from LSC's TV and meteorology department pose with storm chaser Jim Cantore from the Weather Channel.

Career services may offer more than you know

Ryan Millet

Lyndon State College offers a wide range of career services to help students to look beyond academic life. Linda Wacholder, Director of Career Services, has been at LSC since 1987. Outside of advising students, Wacholder teaches, gathers and hands out information, and helps students work through everyday life problems.

Wacholder provides assistance to students at all stages of their college career. She helps students make decisions about majors, graduate school and whether or not an internship is the right choice. "I'm like a nagging mother," Wacholder said. "looking over your shoulder."

Wacholder deals with stu-

dents on a one to one basis or in small groups. She also answers questions and issues via e-mail.

The Career Resources Office has an abundance of handouts, resources and a lending library of books on different careers. The office has different links to various information on their website that students are encouraged to check out. Students can access the information on the website 24/7. The office also assists alumni who are having difficulty entering the workforce; they are not a placement office, but they help facilitate a job search, especially this time of year.

"The push for summer jobs starts after Thanksgiving," Wacholder

said. "Students should be checking the job board now."

Wacholder gathers information on Career Fairs in the Northeast, full-time jobs, part-time jobs and internships. She usually sends out an updated e-mail every couple of weeks with this information.

Wacholder, in association with the Eastern Association of Colleges and Employers (EACE), organizes "Road Trips to the Real World" where students can take trips to possible employer's job sites. The students can get a feel for how things function at an actual job. Some of the employers involved with the program are The Boston Museum of Science, FBI Buffalo Division, Hershey Resorts (PA), New York

Foundation for the Arts (NY). The program is free, but students are responsible for their own transportation. For more information, visit www.eace.org/networks/it.org or call 800-451-4273.

The next career fair in the area will be held in New York City on January 7, 2005. The fair is sponsored by Career Conferences of America, Boston. The career conference gives students the opportunity to conduct many first interviews, to interview with employers who have reserved job openings and to get a feel for the quality of the companies and organizations that attend. Attendance to the conference is by invitation only. Interested students can

FALL 2004											
Final Examination Schedule											
Normal Class "Final Exam" will be						Normal Class "Final Exam" will be					
Meets at:	Held on:					Meets at:	Held on:				
MW 8:00	WED 12/1	8:00AM-10:00AM				T TH 8:00	TUE 12/14	8:00AM-10:00AM			
MWF 9:00	MON 12/13	8:00AM-10:00AM				T TH 9:30	TUE 12/14	10:15AM-12:15PM			
MWF 10:05	WED 12/15	10:15AM-12:15PM				T TH 11:00	THR 12/16	8:00AM-10:00AM			
MWF 11:10	MON 12/13	12:30PM- 2:30PM				TT H 1:30	TUE 12/14	12:30PM- 2:30PM			
M W F 12:15	MON 12/13	10:15AM-12:15PM				T TH 3:00	TUE 12/14	2:45PM- 4:45PM			
MWF 1:30	WED 12/15	12:30PM- 2:30PM				T TH 4:30	THR 12/16	10:15AM-12:15PM			
or MW											
MWF 3:00	MON 12/13	2:45PM- 4:45PM				T 6:00	TUE 12/14	5:00PM- 7:00PM			
or MW											
MWF 4:30	WED 12/15	2:45 PM- 4:45 PM				TH 6:00	WED 12/15	7:15PM- 9:15PM			
or MW											
M 6:00	MON 12/13	5:00PM- 7:00PM				Other Normal Class Times to be arranged					
W 6:00	WED 12/15	5:00PM- 7:00PM				Arranged Times Available for Exams					
						M 7:15-9:15 and T 7:15-9:15					

Brouha and Burklyn, The brouha About Burklyn

By: Norman Johnson

During the weekend of December 4 and 5, the Burklyn Arts Council held their 35th Holiday Market.

During the year the non-profit organization in Lyndonville holds two fund raising events into fund arts in the local schools. A summer craft fair is held in July, and a holiday market in early December. Both events feature Vermont artists; juried to maintain a consistent high-quality of hand-made crafts and artwork. This year the market featured sixty crafters and artists offering block-prints, hand-blown glass, wool clothing, photography, soaps, candles, holiday wreaths, jewelry, and more.

Burklyn Art Council exists to encourage the appreciation and development of the performing and visual arts in the schools and communities. Burklyn's target area is Burke, East Haven, Lyndon, Newark, Sheffield, Sutton, and Wheelock. Funding categories include local artists programs, performances (for in-school performances and to theaters like the Wang in Boston), incentive programs, elementary scholarships, and professional development for instructors. Through the gen-

erosity of a recent anonymous donor, a college art scholarship in the name of Burklyn's founder, Elizabeth Brouha, is now available to one talented local high school senior. Presently, this scholarship involves Lyndon Institute seniors only, since LI is the only high school within Burklyn's target area.

Burklyn's involvement in the schools began years ago, after a new resident

Brouha found it often difficult to fit into. She said she once spent all day shoveling alongside her hired man to prove that she wasn't just another rich doctor's wife. She got her reward at the end of the day when he said, "you work that shovel pretty good for a city girl."

In 1970, Brouha organized Friends of Burklyn, precursor to the Burklyn Arts Council. Friends of Burklyn was

adapting to the times, but never losing focus of its primary mission. Brouha remained the organization's guiding force for many years; browbeating, cajoling, and badgering everyone for money. Jim Doyle, retired Lyndon State College professor and long time Burklyn trustee said, "when I saw Elizabeth coming with that look in her eye, I just pulled out my checkbook because I knew she was going to win." A complex personality, Brouha could be mean, kind, overbearing, irascible, controversial, dedicated, and impossible at times, but she fought for Burklyn and its mission to the day she died. A few days before her death, she lucidly talked about what Burklyn had accomplished, and what it was capable of.

After her death, the Burklyn trustees put Brouha's name to the anonymously donated money. There were long discussions about the merits of scholarships versus memorials. They concluded that the overall value was in scholarships, not "bricks and mortar."

Elizabeth Brouha would have agreed.

"...you work that shovel pretty good for a city girl."

of Sutton wondered about the beautiful cultural wasteland she'd just moved to. Elizabeth Brouha, was well traveled and educated. As a young girl, she presented flowers to Charles Lindbergh in Paris after his historic solo Atlantic flight. In Belgium, Brouha attended progressive schools that trained the mind to recognize art, then to apply it to everything, from milking the school cow, to mathematics.

formed to save the old Burklyn Mansion (the estate straddled the Burke and Lyndon township lines) on Darling Hill Road. Ultimately, the Burklyn Mansion was independently bought and restored to its original beauty. Friends of Burklyn became Burklyn Arts Council, and redirected their energies to funding arts in the schools.

Burklyn Art Council changed over the years,

Career services

cont'd from page 6

onto: www.careerconferences.com or inquiry with the Career Services Office on campus.

Wacholder has had various jobs before coming to LSC. She worked at the University of Texas at El Paso

as a career counselor, as a consultant for a computer career information system, as a grant writer for a private school and as a guidance counselor and teacher at a high school. Wacholder is offering a half-course mini this spring, "Life

Beyond the Classroom". She will offer it twice over the course of the semester. The class will consolidate the resources offered by the Career Resources Office, giving students the opportunity to get credit, while bettering

their employment skills.

"Linda's always on top of keeping students looking toward their futures," said Anthony "Tony" Santacaterina an IDM major here on campus.

Catherine Deleo takes sabbatical and gives back

Ryan Millet
Professor of Recreation Management and Ski Resort Management, Dr. Catherine Deleo was granted a sabbatical this year to do some non-profit work, to develop curriculum and to spend time with her family.

Deleo plans to work for two local and two international non-profit organizations during her sabbatical. She also hopes to develop new and interesting curriculum for next year. Deleo wants to catch up on some personal reading and spend time with her family. She is going to spend some time grant writing and project organizing.

She mentors for the Youth Leadership Forum, and she has been involved with them since 1991. The Forum is involved with the International Institute for Peace through Tourism (IIPT). The IIPT has hosted three previous conferences to promote African Tourism. Next year's conference will be held from February sixth through the eleventh at the Hotel InterContinental Lusaka; Lusaka, Zambia. The theme of the conference is Tourism: Pathway to a Peaceful and Prosperous Africa; the aim of the conference is to develop a 21st Century Vision for African Tourism. The IIPT will provide a \$500 scholarship to the college or university student who writes the best paper on a "21st Century Vision for African Tourism"

Deleo gained her BS and MS from Northeastern University and her EdV from Boston University. She has been married twenty years, and she has an eighteen year old daughter and a sixteen year old son. She is a resident of Cheshire. Deleo has been involved with Lyndon State College since 1977. "I love it here," Deleo said, "especially the students and the scenery."

Deleo said, "I am looking forward to coming back to teach next fall."

Sigma Zeta Research Award

- Name of Academic Recognition: Sigma Zeta Research Award
- Purpose: To honor the single Lyndon student, regardless of class or major, who presents the most outstanding research paper or project of a mathematical or scientific nature. The award is \$1000.
- Eligibility: The winning paper or project must be submitted by March 15. The paper or project must be of a mathematical or scientific nature. The paper or project will demonstrate original thought or creative application or insightful interpretation. Results must be presented in a professional format.
- Announcement: The Sigma Zeta Executive Committee shall publicize the award and the closing date and method of submission each year. In September, the committee will notify all faculty of this information. The information will be posted on bulletin boards and given to the student newspaper. In addition, the Lyndon State College's office of Public Information will be notified. The process shall be repeated during the first week of February.
- Judging: Four copies of student papers are to be submitted to the Faculty Advisor of Sigma Zeta. The papers will be judged by a Selection Committee consisting of three professors who are members of Sigma Zeta and are appointed by the Sigma Zeta Executive Committee. The award is presented to the student at an appropriate ceremony not part of Commencement. Notice may be listed in the Commencement program if the recipient is a Senior, or upon his or her graduation.

There's more to beauty pageants than meets the eye

By Rachael Morrow

Very few people can appreciate how much work goes into beauty pageants, but Lyndon State College sophomore Amanda Gilman can.

Gilman has competed in three pageants, two Miss Vermont Teen USA, and this year's Miss Vermont USA. She placed in the top ten the first time she competed, was runner up the second time she competed in the teen competition, and this year she was Miss Vermont runner-up.

Gilman began competing in pageants at the age of 16.

"My cousin won the title of Miss Vermont Teen USA 2002, and I realized it was an attainable goal. I always wanted to compete, but never realized the opportunities that were available until then," she said.

Even small pageants, like the one hosted in Vermont, require a lot of preparation and work for contestants.

Gilman has worked with an image and speech consultant who trained her on interview and stage question preparation, as well as working with Gilman on the image she wished to present. As she made the

transition into the "Miss Division" of competition, the importance of physical fitness grew and she found a personal trainer to help her prepare. She has gowns from Florida and Rhode Island that she wears in competition, and has also worked with a photographer from Rhode Island.

Makeup for the pageants is also quite an ordeal.

Gilman estimates the whole process takes about two hours, and is done with the help of a professional.

"You have to put on foundation, powder, tons of eye makeup, false eyelashes, lipstick and liner. All in all, if you look at the contestants close up, they look like beautiful dolls instead of real people," said Gilman.

She says that of all the people she's worked with, her favorite person that has shared her pageant experiences with is her mom, despite the fact that her mother isn't it to pageants much.

"She is amazing. She supports me and gives me prep talks, and most of all, she believes in me and never lets me forget it. I'm so thankful for her support," said Gilman.

Many pageant competitors are involved in the community, and Gilman is no exception. She has over 600 volunteer hours logged with the United Way, and also works with the Susan Koman Breast Cancer Foundation. She also works as a mentor to students at



the elementary school in her home town, and has raised over \$225 (more than any other pageant contestant) for the Miss Vermont USA team that walked in the "Blow the Whistle on Asthma" walk held this fall.

Gilman is double majoring in Television News Broadcasting and Business Administration. She hopes to one day work for NBC, but says she would be "excited to work in the television field no matter which network I ended up working for." She would also like to own her own image and speech consulting business that would cater to business professionals and pageant contestants.

Gilman said she hopes to win Miss Vermont USA before she graduates, and is unsure whether she'll be competing in pageants after college.

"More than likely I'll be focused on building a successful career at that point."



Tuxedos, debutantes, and the South over Thanksgiving

By: Norman Johnson

"They still do things like that in the south," my wife said after telling me that my oldest niece in Alabama was going to be in a debutante ball this Thanksgiving. She said I would have to wear a tuxedo. Hell, I didn't even get married in one.

Debutante events are the formal presentation of young women to society. From that point on, she is technically eligible for courtship and marriage. Introduced during the event, each debutante walks down a red carpet between the audience on the arm of her father (ten of the eighteen fathers had "III" after their family names.) Later, each girl returns on the arm of her date. Interestingly, mothers were absent from the formal process, present only in the background. This southern tradition most probably originated in France, or Spain. Historically, both countries colonized the south.

The conversation with my wife was in March. As Thanksgiving break approached, I dreaded the trip-not dreading to see my nieces but because I am awkward at formal events. Adding to my funk, it was raining when we got off the plane, and-except for one day-, it rained the entire time we were there.

The day of the ball, the household was chaos. My brother and sister-in-laws' household consists of seven women, one man, three cats, and four dogs, almost a

three ring circus. That day I heard, "My gown doesn't fit, so-and-so stole my hair-brush, I don't like my hair-do, the dog just threw up, I think I have a sinus infection, I need help with my homework, I don't want to go tonight." These events are expensive and with six girls in the family, all of whom will go to college, I figured my brother-in-law was going to be working hard to afford to get them all through.

That night at the country club, as my wife and I mixed with the crowd, it struck me how formal events are like costume parties, the debutante event designed to showcase daughters. The array of jewelry, gowns, and hair styles was dazzling and I began to enjoy myself.

The women's styles covered the entire spectrum of taste. Some women in full length gowns were exquisite. One of my nieces wore a dark brown full length gown wide at the floor with chocolate brown lace accents. I thought together with her slight figure, her upswept hair, and delicate features she was the perfect southern belle. Some elaborate gowns had trains and I saw trailing silk and taffeta trod on from behind by some clumsy man or girl.

Some gowns were short and revealing. Trashy looks the same in all social classes, except for the price tag. There was a lot of "big hair." I saw several micro-minis and one black diaphanous gown slit up the side almost

to the underwear. Neck lines scooped low on several women defied the principles of garment construction and guidelines of taste; Janet Jacksons in the making. One well-tanned woman sported a neckline half-way to her waist. Over her sternum, worn like decoration, were large prominent veins that would have amazed any Vermont dairy farmer.

Tuxedo styling is so uniform, only fine details are apparent. Fathers with debutante daughters wore tails and white bow ties, otherwise every other tux looked the same. Slight differences showed in tailoring; a well-fit jacket here, and a ill-fitting pair of pants there. Some shoes were of patent-leather, some were hand-made black calfskin, and some were scuffed in need of a shine. As the champagne was swilled, food and drink made stains down the front of several jackets. One slightly-built man with fine blonde-hair stood out. He carried two glasses of champagne held stiffly out in front of him as he gravely walked through the crowd in long exaggerated steps. Groomed with painstaking care, he wore a waxed mustache curled in large stiff loops on either side of a delicate nose. On his chin, a sparse blonde goatee was pulled forward and waxed to a point, the overall effect convinced me he'd overdosed on Tolstoy. He delivered the champagne to his mother and tiny gray-haired grand-

mother, who, in spite of her appearance, loved him. The boy he was still and so beautiful, man he soon would be.

I had a good seat in the front row for the formal debutante presentation. I took a photograph of my niece and her brother-in-law doing nothing. As the heat and storkiness rose in the crowded room, sweat ran down a debutante's face. A large lady in a brocade jacket wedged herself into a chair next to me and I had to pull my coatate out from under her beam. As she sat down, her temperature around immediately rose another twenty degrees. I was thankful when the girls, some with three or four names, had promenaded up and down the runway, heads held perfectly immobile, broad white-toothed smiles never changing.

As we left, I saw "Karl Tolstoy" stiffly jerking his tiny grandmother around the dance floor. We didn't stay to the end so I don't know whether the band played "Louie, Louie" or any of the highbrow party animals did the "gator" on the dance floor. I left with the impression that I had witnessed a different culture, almost a Gatsby-like performance. I might see this event at least five more times as my nieces come of age. I won't mind putting on a tuxedo for them, and I will appreciate my flannel shirt and levis that much more.

Davis coaching another year of LSC Hockey

By Dave Poczobut
Lyndon State Ice Hockey has been offered at the college since the 1960's, and for the past four years, Jonathan Davis has coached for the Hornets. New Meteorology Professor Warner Wintels is helping out this year as well, working hard as the assistant coach.

Davis said that his main goals for the team this year are to make the postseason, as well as to have a good time and represent Lyndon State College well. Also among the team's goals are a strong defense, a good goal-keeping, speed and goal-scoring up front from the defense.

With strengths, however, usually come weaknesses. Davis said that the team's main weakness is their

depth. He said that they lost several key players from last year, and unfortunately they lack in player size as well.

Along with being the head coach for the hockey team, Davis is also the head Director of Residential Life at Lyndon State. Davis said that despite the difficulty in juggling to roles, he still enjoys coaching. "Sometimes I do find it difficult to manage, but I love doing it and the reward shows itself when the players and managers put so much hard work and dedication into it. Also, if it were not for Janna Brown, President of the club, and a few other key contributors - in addition to the players - there is no way I could do it."

Despite the many people who hope it will happen,

Lyndon State Hockey is not a varsity sport, but a club sport. Davis has said he would love to see hockey become a varsity sport, but feels it won't happen while he is still coaching. If the Club were to ever to go Varsity, however, Davis thinks it would be a great thing to happen for both the school and the Northeast Kingdom, especially since the college may become a NCAA school. "There are so many players out there that want to play D III NCAA hockey and there are so many supporters of the game in this area. It's a no-brainer," said Davis.

Davis said that the schedule this year is a tough one, especially in the first semester, due to the team having most of their away games

during that time. The spring semester looks more promising, however, as the team plays mostly home games. "So far we have proved to be a home team with some struggles on the road, but we have a great shot at the post season in late February."

Davis also gave credit to new Coach Wintels. "Coach Wintels has been a great addition to the team this year. The players have taken to him well, and he has a great sense for how the game should be played."

Davis said that he wants his players to know is that getting a degree at Lyndon State is most the important thing, and also that he truly does appreciate all the effort that his players make both on and off the ice.

In the Spotlight

Mike Laperle

Sport- Rugby
Position- Scrum Half
Age- 21

Hometown- Belgrade, ME
Major- Television Studies

Favorite Food- Red Bull

Worst Food- Anything Seafood related

Favorite Drink- Refer to favorite food

Favorite TV Show- "Guiding Light"

Worst TV Show- "The Real World"

—"because it's not real and because I'm not on it."

Favorite Movie- "Finding Nemo"

Movie you Hate- "Bambi" —cause dammit, Bambi's mom wasn't suppose to die"

Most Proud Achievement- Making the All Vermont Rugby Team

Biggest Dream- "Someday being able to lift more weight than Poczobut and Moccia, combined"

Peet Peeves- "People that stare at me while I lift"

Favorite song- "Live for This" by Hate Breed

Idols- Dave Parker and Nick Rowe "even though I have no clue who Nick is, I heard he was everybodys idol"
Hobbies- Lifting, Theatre, Rugby, Jujitsu, Dungeons and Dragons, and Magic Cards

Favorite Quote- "UVM Tennis!!!"

SPORTS

Women's Basketball receives high praise

By Dave Poczobut

Dave Mellor is going into his tenth year as head coach for the Lyndon State Women's Basketball team, and he says that this is by far the best team he's ever coached.

Mellor, who is also a full-time faculty member of the Math and Computer Science department, believes that for the past 3 or 4 years, women's basketball at Lyndon State has been considered a stronger program than before, and this season will be no exception with so many returning juniors and seniors,

"They are the center of our program. They will be missed," said Mellor.

Mellor said that some of the team strengths are a strong defense, with a quick team that likes to run on the offense, and has great outside shooting while also taking pride in passing.

"Our team is an assist orientated team and has more depth than most of the teams we play."

Mellor pointed out that the captains, seniors Ilene Dickenson and Jaime Rosso, contribute quite a bit to the team. Mellor said that they both show great leadership on and off the court and are one of the many reasons the team will be successful this season.

Game scheduling may also help LSC's Lady Hornets to victory. While

they play many away games in the first semester, the team will play the majority of their games at home during the second semester. This benefits them and allows them to miss only very few classes. The more classes the players don't miss, the more caught up on work they'll be, which will take less stress off of them when they play on the court. With 26 games on their schedule, down the stretch, more home games benefits a team.

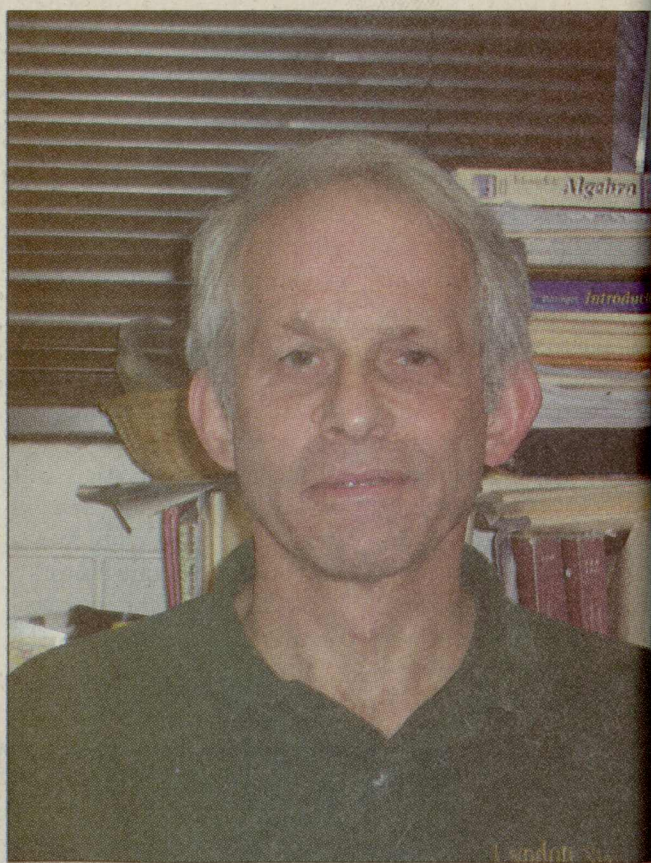
With strengths, come weaknesses and Mellor said that his team has trouble developing that "killer instinct" by having issues with holding onto a lead in a game. He also pointed out that his team isn't the biggest in size; therefore, rebounds are tough to pull down.

The Lady Hornets have thus so far proved Mellor's good thoughts. They are 2-0 with winning the tournament held at Rivier College on November 19th and 20th.

Junior Alicia Shedd was named tournament MVP, posting a combined 35 points and 10 boards in both games.

Nichole Arel, also a junior for the team was named to the All Tournament Team by posting a combined 17 assists in both games.

The Hornets crushed both competitors, first mauling Daniel Webster 78-49, followed by an even



Dave Mellor

larger win over the hosts of the tournament, Rivier College, 90-57. This is the second year in a row that the Lady Hornets of Lyndon State have won this tournament.

Mellor said that to him, and his players, fan support is huge, and last year was by far the best fan support he had ever seen here. He would like to see this large fan support continue to grow even bigger as he feels it pumps his team up both mentally and physically.

Coach Mellor said that he is very impressed and

proud of his players, only by their on court ability, but by their off court ability as well. Last year, the team averaged a 3.3 g point average, which is considered very impressive. They also boasted 3 National All American Scholar Athletes for the first time ever: Captains Ilene Dickenson, Jaime Rosso, senior forward Kate Poy. Mellor his the member his team are valued members of the LSC community and are great students, players and people.

The Critic

"Serving the student voice at Lyndon State College"

Baja 2005

Expeditioning LSC style

Volume 51
Number 5
February 1, 2005



*A secret hide-out,
a couple of close friends,
miles from home,
the perfect recipe for . . .*

Acorn pancake

By Marla Sawyer

An organic seed catalogue arrived in the mail today. I read it from cover to cover, gobbling up its promises of sunshine and hummingbirds, squash and tomatoes. Summer truly will come again, and my garden will arise. In the very back pages of the catalogue, where garden tools and composting toilets are sold, a book is listed which transports me back to a time of simplicity and wonder: a book about the harvesting, grinding and cooking of acorns.

Acorns are forever tied to great books in my mind: each holds a world of possibility within a small, smooth package — a self-contained ovum of mighty generative energy. I've dreamed of acorn pancakes drizzled with maple syrup, as I sat on the sun-spattered leaf-mold of a damp oak forest in March. The AM transistor radio played "Knowing Me Knowing You" by Abba. I can still smell the wet leaves on the ground. I'm sitting crosslegged with my two best friends, Lauren and Judy, and three kittens are crawling over our legs, briefly emancipated from the hot insides of our jackets. We are not actually eating acorn pancakes, but we are talking about it.

The year is 1977. We are ten years old, and all of the trouble that follows is entirely my fault.

I tell Judy and Lauren that I've just finished reading the greatest book ever — *My Side of the Mountain* — it's all about a boy who lives in the woods in a hollowed out tree with a falcon for a best friend; and he eats wild onions and acorn pancakes.

I think it's a true story.

I think it's a viable lifestyle option.

I say, let's try it.

We pack the kittens into our jackets and step gently along the brookside path. "We don't have any trees big enough to live in," Judy says.

"There's that ancient log cabin, though," I offer. "We can live there."

"Yeah, it has a woodstove, too," Lauren pipes in. "We can cook and stay warm. AND we can keep the kittens."

We somberly consider Lauren's point. Judy's kittens were headed for new homes within the week, and there was real-

ly no other way we could keep them. We've reached our decision.

We gather last years acorns along the path side, stuffing our pockets full on the way to Grizzly Gulch. The cabin is close to the center of the 500 acre woods, a small cabin with a trash-barrel woodstove, which we girls thought was a long-forgotten frontier cabin from the days of King Philip's Indian Wars. In truth, it was a rough-hewn hippie love shack less than 10 years old. Someone had affixed a sign above the door which read "Grizzly Gulch," and sure grizzlies must have roamed here in centuries past.

As we walk, I explain Jean George's book to them. The boy lived alone in the woods, and

he didn't need his parents. He found everything he needed to survive right where he lived, naturally, in harmony with the land.

"We could too," I say. "We can grind acorns into flour, and then just add water for pancakes. If we could find some birds eggs it would be really good, but we could probably make pancakes without eggs. Bisquick doesn't need eggs." I reason. "Probably an acorn flour doesn't either."

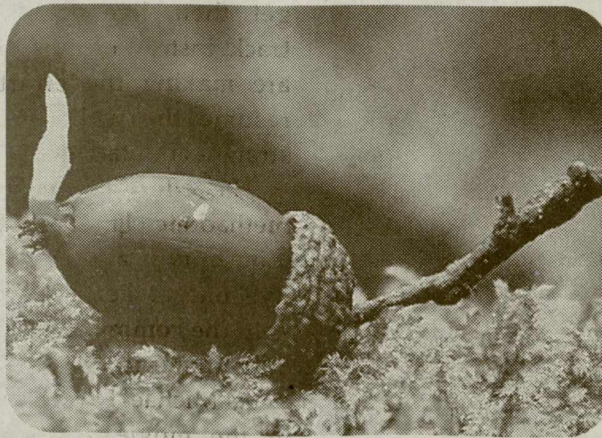
We reach the cabin and settle

the kittens inside. We need some utensils and matches to light the fire, so we set out for the keg party site to scavenge. Sure enough, the area is strewn with beer bottles and cans, and Lauren even finds a lighter and cigarettes someone left on a boulder. We smoke them, but don't inhale.

The sun sinks below the hill now, and a couple of miles away our three mothers are busy setting the tables. Our three fathers are just coming in the door from work, scowling about the Boston traffic and opening a can or two of beer. Our little brothers are playing street hockey within calling distance of our little Cape houses.

Lauren, Judy and I dump our pockets of acorns onto the ground. We gather sticks and dry leaves from between the highest boulders, where water doesn't flow as well and things stay dry, and I take the lighter from Lauren.

This is my idea. I'm the leader, so I get to light the fire.



Continued on page 11

Editorial

Inaugural Money

On January 20, President George W. Bush was sworn to office at the fifty-fifth presidential inauguration.

The amount of taxpayer money spent, along with the festivities that occurred, was unprecedented.

Our Presidential inaugurations are beginning to resemble the ancient Roman inaugurations of their more famous rulers.

Back when the Caesars took their place in the hierarchy of rulers, they threw grossly lavish parties. They would dip into what was known as the "privy purse," or the private purse that came with the job of being Caesar, and use that money to put on days of celebration. They would provide the public with free games (including fighting gladiators and exotic animals), food, and would often throw money out to the masses.

These massive games (which came with massive expenses) were intended to increase the popularity of the emperor, as well as to placate the people. Civil unrest among the ancient Romans was always a

threat. It was also a display of power and civilization, since only the rich empire of Rome could afford to put on such shows.

The line between the emperor's private purse and the public purse often became blurred, however, and several times a deficit in public money would occur as a result.

Today's typical inauguration may not feature fighting tigers or armed gladiators, but we still have games to celebrate, funded by the public. Concerts with famous pop-stars are held. We have candlelight dinners, parades and about nine different balls, all at the public's expense.

The difference between the ancient Romans and January's inauguration was that the Romans threw their parties for the general public. Every one who could go was invited to go. This is not the case with our publicly funded games.

If you wished to see our President sworn in, attend a dinner or a ball, you had to fork out some major cash.

Of course, you already did that when you paid your taxes.

Methadone

There seems to be a major problem installing the mobile methadone clinic in St. Johnsbury.

Apparently people seem afraid that those seeking treatment for drug addiction will bring some sort of terrifying atmosphere with them; that wherever the clinic is located, crime will instantly rise in that area.

Wouldn't it make more sense to be afraid of the people who don't have the opportunity to defeat their addiction, but are forced to remain in their current lifestyle? To be afraid of the people who don't wish to get their lives back on track, instead of those who are making the effort to resume the walk on the straight and narrow?

The effort to keep the methadone clinic out of St. Johnsbury is a self destructive one at best. It won't help the community, it will only hinder it.

As Michael Douglas said in the movie Traffic, "If there is a war on drugs, then many of our family members are the enemy. And I don't know how you wage war on your own family."

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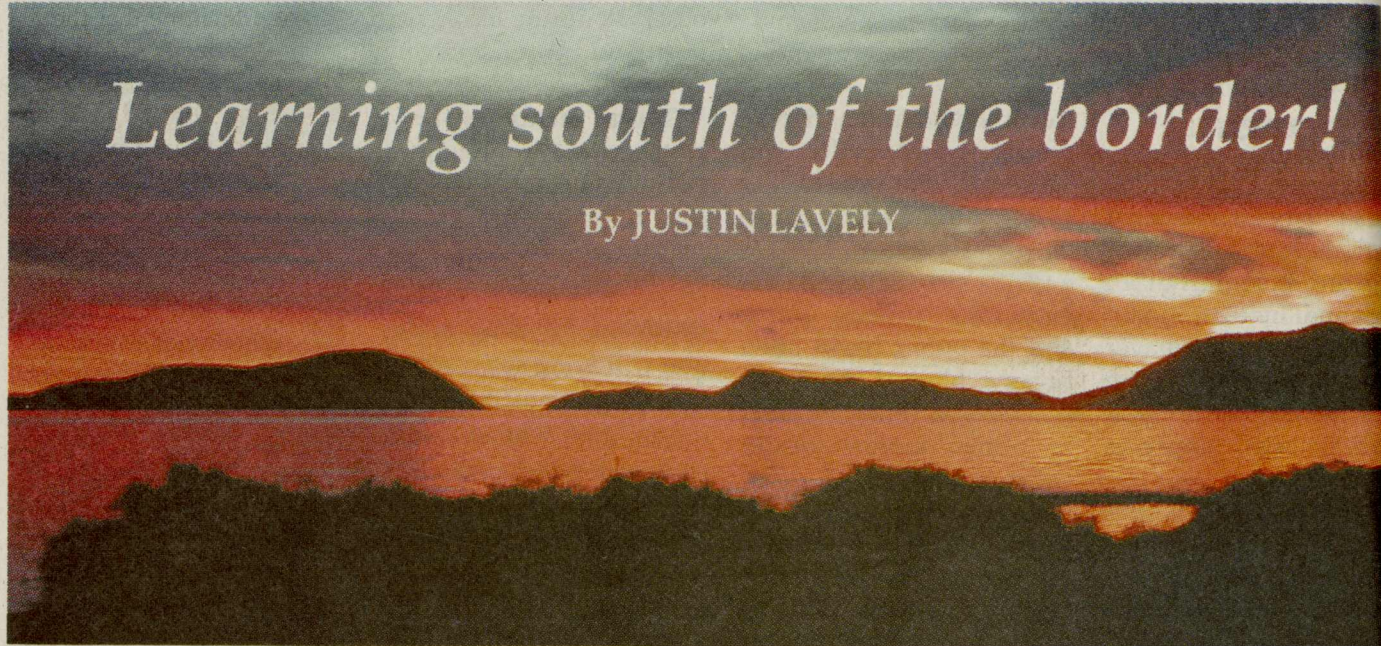
The Critic

LSC Box 7951

Lyndonville, VT 05819

Learning south of the border!

By JUSTIN LAVELY



Even though Mexico's Baja region has been branded as "the forgotten peninsula," the rugged desert landscape and remote island beaches can supply inquisitive travelers with plenty of memories.

I traveled to the area recently with a small group of students from Lyndon State College, located in Lyndonville, Vt. The trip was organized as part of an Outdoor Expedition class. As a class, our goal was to learn the intricacies of kayaking in the formidable Sea of Cortez, named after the famous conqueror, and the process of planning an expedition in a distant, foreign country. For me, the class would be my last as a college student before I graduate in May.

Baja, which means "lower" for its location in reference to California, stretches roughly 800 miles from the southern border of California and is about 100 miles wide. The fastest way to cover those miles is by driving Route 1, the only road that runs north and south. It took our group over 10 hours to reach our destination, Bahia de Los Angeles, the halfway point. Most of the peninsula is sparsely populated, with the exception of Cabo St. Lucas, a large resort town on the southern tip.

The peninsula is mainly desert; vegetation is limited to cactus and brush. The Sea Of Cortez is extremely deep, and the cold water provides abundant nutrients for the extensive marine eco-system.

I chose to look at this trip from a writer's perspective (not to mention the fact that it was better than sitting in a classroom). Before leaving, I read "Log From The Sea of Cortez," a book by John Steinbeck, who visited Bahia de Los Angeles in the 1940s. My intention was to compare my experience to Steinbeck's, and to find out whether two writers could look at the same horizon and share the same admiration. I was pleased to discover that Steinbeck and I did share a mutual appreciation of the relatively untouched ecology of Baja, though he spent more time under the surf. I, on the other hand, spent hours sitting on

rocky points, high above the crashing of the waves and he staring off at the horizon, trying to put the colors into words.

One thing is for sure; Baja is not an area you can understand without actually visiting it. Hopefully the photographs I brought back will help.

Bahia de Los Angeles, our base camp, consists of local (a couple hundred), a few campers, a museum and a handful of restaurants. We arrived after a flight from Burlington, Vt., to Chicago, Ill., another from Chicago to San Diego, Calif., and finally the 10-hour drive.

One thing that's apparent about Baja's natives is their secretive nature, right down to their prehistoric origins. Very little is known about its ancient inhabitants. With the exception of a few cave paintings, little evidence has been found that would suggest it was any more populated than it is now. There are no known descendants of the region's native tribes, because it is believed that early European visitors brought numerous diseases with them, which destroyed the population. The culture was extremely primitive and left no permanent structures. There were many legends on mainland Mexico of the Baja peninsula. After Hernando Cortez conquered Mexico, he set out to conquer Baja, which was then thought to be an island.

According to our guide, the Sea of Cortez was named after the conqueror because it was his last expedition. He said Cortez did not find the gold and pearls he was seeking and he soon fell out of favor with the Spanish government. For the most part, this region defeated Cortez because he did not find the wealth he sought.

The Mexican government took a more active part in ruling Baja and the California area after winning its independence from Spain. In the early 1800s, the U.S. government offered Mexico \$3.5 million for the territory north of the 38th Parallel, which included California. The offer was eventually raised to \$40 million, but it also rejected. In the spring of 1846, the U.S. government took the majority of the land by force, encountering little resistance. The U.S.

on decided that it had no interest in the Baja region and
ded it to Mexico, along with a thin strip of land connect-
g it to the mainland.

The interesting history of the area could be another rea-
n for Baja's mystery.

Steinbeck mentions in his book that the aura of secrecy
as there when he visited as well. He points toward the
rug trade that is rumored to

ave a firm hold on the

gion, and the cor-

upted public offi-

als that were

nce in power.

rom what I

aw, security

as definitely

een increased

ince

Steinbeck's visit,

ut I imagine

d they are fighting a

never-ending battle.

All that aside, both

dSteinbeck, and I found it

easy to devote our writing to the

beauty of the untouched landscapes and marine life. I

amagine that there are very few places left in the world

anywhere one can visit for nearly a week without seeing

another human, or signs of past human presence. I am also

o positive that my group could have stayed in Baja as long

as we wanted and not seen a soul.

r A suitable site for this mission would have been the

first beach we made camp

on. On the first day of pad-

rdling, we set out on a 12-

hour paddle that would take

us from Bahia de Los

Angeles to the remote and

beautiful shores of Punta el

Pescador, which we called

"paradise." The site consist-

ed of a beach that was as

close to perfect as I will ever

see. Our group would have

been happy to spend the

entire trip running our fin-

gers through the fine white

sand and swimming in the

bright blue lagoon. On

countless occasions we for-

got what day of the week it

was, what day of the month

it was, and we were always

grateful for it.

Steinbeck often refers to

the amount of life that can be

seen beneath the waves of

the Sea of Cortez, which he



observed during his numerous dives. I imagine that the
post-World War II boom in tourism has affected this eco-
system to a certain degree, but the explosion of sea life and
the distribution of species can be seen over the edge of a
kayak. Nonetheless, snorkeling equipment can bring you
right into the middle of the action.

Our group spent a significant amount of time develop-
ing a meal plan and planning the provisions we would
need to bring for this expedition, not to mention the 40
gallons of fresh water. Our meal plan worked as well as
can be expected, but I'm sure every member of the group
was happy when we supplemented it with freshly caught
fish. – Justin this would fit better somewhere earlier.

Our guide, who has made numerous trips to the area,
definitely added to the experience. From a logistics stand-
point, his experience in dealing with Mexican officials, cus-
toms, and his friendly connections with locals made both
the traveling and paddling as seamless as possible. My
lasting memory of him was his face, and all of our faces,
when we paddled around the last point before entering
our first campsite. He had mentioned before we arrived
that this site was "paradise," and we were not disappoint-
ed. Everyday we woke up on the shores of paradise, our
faces mirrored his, and they seemed to reflect the light
from the pale blue tide.

This trip confirmed for me something that I have long
suspected. By simplifying life to the point of basic survival
necessities, happiness will be far more attainable. That is,
until you have to go back to the real world.

More Baja photos on pages 8-9



A cultural LSC experience

Ryan Millet

With the help of various educational departments Lyndon State College is giving students the opportunity to explore foreign countries and ancient lands. Students have the chance to travel to Rome, Athens, Moscow, Japan or Mexico.

The Social Science department has offered and is going to continue to offer a variety of trips students can embark on. Past trips have taken students to Africa, Russia, Italy, Greece, Mexico, and Ecuador. Often on these trips students do relief work for the communities or regions they visit. In Mexico students helped dig drainage ditches, in Africa they replenished desperate stocks of medical supplies, and they helped promote education and

donated money for proper supplies.

Assistant Professor Alexander Strokonov is offering three separate trips, one to Italy and Greece and two to his native land of Russia. All three trips last about nine days and cost around \$2000. Students can add the required fees right to their tuition bills. "They are real experience of life outside this country," Strokonov said, "Most of people who go on these trips have never been out of this country."

The Italy/Greece trip is in association with the Boston-based company Education Tours. Stokonov organizes the Russia trips on his own, and has since he arrived at LSC in 2000. Students have the opportunity to gain one or three credits by experiencing new countries. One credit is

gained just for taking the trips. Three credits are awarded to students who attend lectures and do a project while on the trip. Strokonov said, "The project depends on your major. If you are business major you will meet with Russian business owner. If you are Political Science major you will meet with a person who works at Kremlin."

During most of the trip students stay in hotels. On the trip to Russia students spend one day and night in the home of a native family. Students attend performance events, visit museums and see historic sites. On the Italy/Greece trip students land in Athens, travel to the ancient home of the Greeks, go on to Naples, home of many artists and composers, and then to Rome with an optional trip to Florence. On the Russian trip students

land in Moscow, visit Kremlin and Arm Museum, wander around the Tretyakov Gallery of in Moscow, travel to Petersburg, visit St. Paul's Fort, Catherine Palace, Peter Palace and St. Isaac Cathedral. Students also might to the Ballet, the Circus, some other Performing art show. "The Russian offers more chance of in action with people," Strokonov said.

"I support every type of travel," he said, "but if you want to learn, go through organized channels."

When Strokonov returns he is interested in student feedback for future trips. He's considering more trips to Italy, Greece and Russia. He would also like to take students to places like India or China.

Positive experiences impress new dean

By Nicholas R. Plante

It's been over two months since Dr. Donna Dalton took over as Dean of Academic and Student Affairs at Lyndon State College, and Dalton said she views Lyndon positively.

"It's overwhelmingly positive, the school has a great community of students and faculty," she said. She highlighted the longevity and talent of the faculty, along with the high quality of the student body. The fact that the faculty chose to teach at Lyndon when they could have taught almost anywhere shows the dedication and commitment at LSC, stated Dalton.

Although she found little wrong with Lyndon, Dalton mentioned there could be improvement with self cleanup for those who use the campus. She points out that

6 Although she has only been assigned to her job since November, she's still in the listening and observing

stages, and will work any future changes in group setting according to Lyndon's strategic plans.

Starting now and over the next two years the Vermont State College system will introduce four new graduation requirements in the areas of: writing, information literacy, quantitative reasoning, and oral communication. Dalton says these standards are being implemented, "To insure every student who graduates from LSC meets a certain threshold as far as writing skills, speaking skills, quantitative reasoning skills, and information literacy skills," and they are being implemented, "...because of a nation wide push for academic accountability." Dalton also explained the additions as a kind of 'exiting exam' and she feels they are 'good things.' The new requirements will help students become contributing members of their future communities Dalton said.

Weather got you feeling down?

By: Jordan Manges

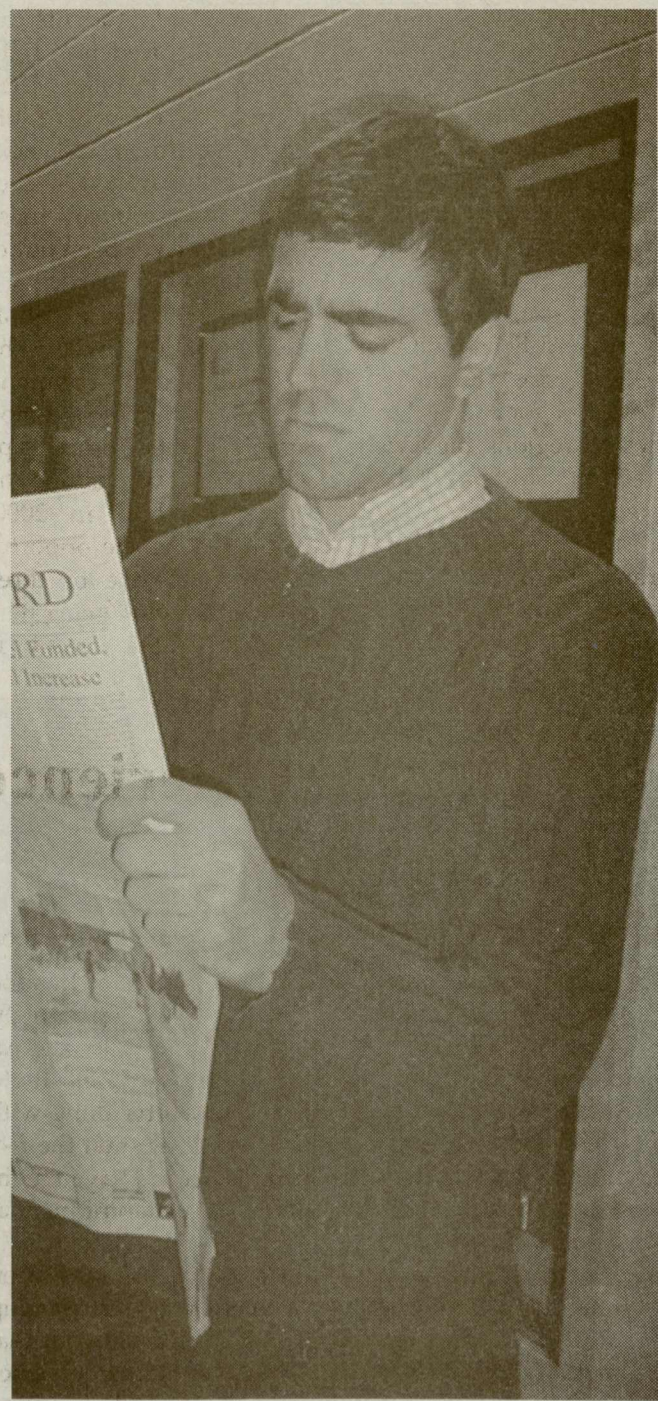
Despite the recent run of clear blue skies and warm sunny days, many people out there might still be feeling the effects of the dark and cold month of January. Up in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont where temperatures sometimes don't climb much higher than 0 degrees for days at a time, the conditions take their toll. Many people are left to wonder if their sanity slipped away with the short-lived daylight hours. While some people might feel a simple annoyance with the short, cold days, others really do get sick of it. Those that feel a significant change in their moods and behavior are likely to suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder, or SAD.

According to information found at www.nmha.org, SAD is a mood disorder associated with episodes of depression and related to seasonal variations of light. Someone who lives in sunny, warm southern California where there isn't too much of a seasonal change might not necessarily feel the effects of SAD, but dwellers of the N.E.K are certainly in the line of fire as soon as November and December roll around. The two most difficult months for people who suffer from SAD are typically January and February.

Things to ask yourself when questioning whether you might be a sufferer of SAD would be: Do you find yourself with less energy than usual? Do you feel tired all the time and less motivated? Are sugar filled and carbohydrate loaded foods defining your hunger cravings? Are you overwhelmed with feelings of stress, loss of self-esteem, or guilt? If the answer to any or all of those questions is yes, you could indeed be one of millions of people who suffer from SAD. Being a student at LSC certainly brings on its stressful moments, and if you are a dorm student without a car, it is certainly easy to get cooped up indoors all day long without going anywhere except to class. Just getting to class at all when you are suffering from SAD is a hurdle to get over.

There are many ways to treat SAD. Since the disorder is related to seasonal variations of light, lightboxes have been found to be extremely helpful in the treatment of SAD. A lightbox is a bank of white fluorescent lights on a metal reflector and shield with a plastic screen which can fit on a desk easily, but they can be costly. Another route to go would be to see a mental health professional and see if antidepressants would help. The drawback with antidepressants, however, can be the amount of side effects that come with them. For people with mild symptoms, the cheapest and most natural way to combat SAD is to simply spend time outdoors, especially when it is sunny, even if it is cold. Studies have concluded that just one hour spent outside in the sunlight is just as effective as about two and a half hour's

spent under artificial light. Getting out there and being active is key, as is talking to someone about how you feel. The staff at the Brown House on campus are quite familiar with SAD and how to help students deal with it. For more information see www.nmha.org or check out the numerous books available in the Samuel Read Hall library as well.

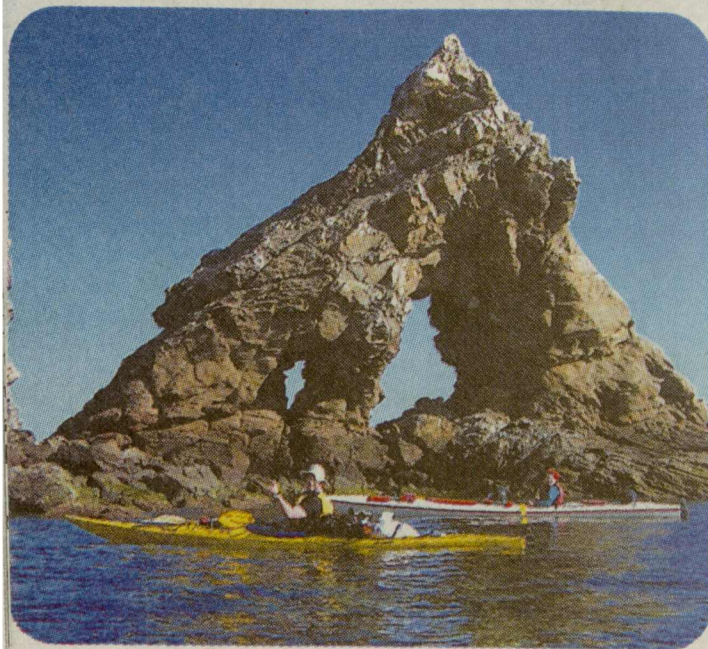


More pics from *Mexico*

*"...you work that shovel pretty
good for a city girl."*

Expeditioners:

Andrew Cooper
Ryan Markham
Allyssa Bryant
James Mann
Peter Konz
Kelly Rossiter (Instructor)
Russ Watts (Instructor)





Wheeler brings big time experience to Television Studies

By: Dave Poczobut

Since 1994, Elizabeth Wheeler, better known as "Liz," has been part of the Television Studies department at Lyndon State College.

Back in 1980, Wheeler graduated from LSC with a bachelors in communications arts and sciences with a concentration in theatre performance. From there, she then did some freelance production work for CBS Sports and eventually moved back to Lyndonville to raise her family and was asked to join the LSC Television Studies program as a faculty member.

Wheeler said her goals change on a regular basis according to standards in the ever changing world of television broadcasting. While things are always changing, she said her biggest challenge will be helping create the talent for the Lyndon State award winning news casts.

This is Wheeler's first year as a full time faculty member, even though she has been an adjunct here since 1994. "I look forward to being a full time member of the students and faculty who create these shows."

"I've always been intrigued with performance in general and having grown up in a household where my father worked in the business I was naturally drawn to television," she said.

Wheeler had traveled extensively with her father to sporting events all over the world and had high hopes of someday giving her own children a look at life beyond their own back door. She was one of the very first student anchors at Lyndon State when the program began and enjoys being a part of it 25 years later. Wheeler said the Television studies program is a solid one that will be here for years to come and while she is still here, she will always be learning and teaching something new to keep things interesting.

Not only does Wheeler teach Television studies, but she is also a part of News 7 at LSC, which is run by students with the guidance of the faculty.

Wheeler said that she strives for her students to gain a sense of self motivation in the art of performances, and to give the best performance they can through rehearsal and on-air time.

Education has a new educator

By Nicole Miner

Marilynn Davis, a new professor of the Education Department, is experiencing not only her first year at Lyndon, but also her first year teaching at the collegiate level. She enjoys balancing her time between the classroom and outdoor playtime. Davis has already fallen in love with the Lyndon area. Living in Burke Hollow,

Marilynn finds everything she

needs to enjoy her free time while remaining close to the college.

Davis is very happy teaching at Lyndon State College and feels "super supported" working in a pro-woman environment which has women in the highest authoritative roles on the campus. Carol Moore, President of LSC, and Donna Dalton, the Dean of Academic Affairs, hold these positions.

When Davis is not in the classroom she spends her

time snowboarding and mountain biking. She has even begun to learn how to ice climb. She has only tried this once but has every intention of going again. Davis is also involved in a Federal Research Grant to bring Electronic Portfolios to the Education Department. On this project she has a chance to work with Professors from other Vermont State Colleges.

Davis is not only pleased with the Lyndon

area, she is also very happy with where she is in her education. She has received an undergraduate degree in English and a Masters degree in Education from UVM. She is currently a Doctoral Candidate at UVM.

Even with all of these responsibilities and activities that Davis is involved in she still says, "I try really hard to be spontaneous with my life. I just try to keep it all balanced."

The ins and outs of Mononucleosis

A campus terrorizer revealed

By Nicole Miner

According to Miriam Mon, a nurse at the Brown House, the Brown House sees an average "one case of Mono" each week. At any given time we have one or two students on campus with Mono."

Typical symptoms of Mono are fever, sore throat, fatigue and swollen glands, especially the glands in the back of the neck. These are the symptoms that Doctors look for when diagnosing Mono. Mono affects 50 of every 100,

000 people, making it very common to young adults. Streptococcal (Strep Throat) accompanies Twenty five percent of all Mono cases.

So what is Mononucleosis (Mono) and how does one get it? Mono is caused when a person becomes infected with Epstein-Barr virus (EBV). Most people will become infected with EBV at some point in their life, but not all cases will result in Mono. Testing for Mono involves a blood test, which shows the

atypical white blood cells and antibodies present in Mono.

The disease is spread through saliva. It is commonly spread through sharing eating utensils, straws and kissing. That is how it got the nickname "The Kissing Disease." Isolation does not need to occur with patients who have Mono, the people around them have to be aware and not engage in activities that will force them to come in contact with the infected person's saliva, such

as drinking out of the same cup.

To help reduce the risk of a Mono outbreak on campus students should refrain from any activity that would bring them in contact with other people's body secretions. If you do get diagnosed with Mono or come into contact with an infected individual saliva do not share your eating utensils or cups and refrain from intimate contact. A person can be contagious before they have symptoms.

Acorn Pancakes

continued from page 2

That's the rule.

When the fire is lit we go to the riverbed to gather rocks, then we smash the acorns between them. We smash and smash, but the acorns don't turn into flour.

"The pancakes might be lumpy," I say, "but I think if we soak the acorns like lentils they'll get soft. Then we can make patties and cook the pancakes."

We swish 1970's river water around in the beer cans, dump them out a few times, and haul "clean" river water back to our camp. Judy, the innovator, has flattened out some cans to serve as pans, and we dump our acorn and river water mixture onto the crushed cans, place the cans on top of the fire, and wait for the aroma of pancakes.

It just doesn't work.

It worked in the book, I protest.

We sit huddled around the fire in the stove, poking sticks into the flame, hungry but still enjoying the adventure. The sun set hours ago and the woods are very dark. The name "Grizzly Gulch" grows ominous.

The kittens are mewling hungrily in the firelight. They would not even try the gritty acorn pancakes.

At some point we agree that we should go home. We have never before seen real darkness in our bedrooms below the streetlights, but here in Martins Woods we are immersed in blackness. The fire seems faint now, and we have no flashlights. So we leave.

Branches scrape our faces. Roots and rocks trip our steps. We hold hands and shuffle our feet along the path to feel our way home. Down by the river, the water has captured some

light and we are able to see well enough to cross without any trouble. The kittens wail loudly now inside our jackets, and we girls fall glumly silent.

Our parents must be really mad at us.

We'll probably be grounded.

We shuffle along the well worn path and then, up ahead, we see flashlights jumping and wiggling. Ten, fifteen, twenty flashlights. A neighborhood search party has mobilized, combing the woods and calling our names. Marlaaaa! Juuuddy! Laaauren!

When we yell out our answer, "Over here," all of those twenty flashlights turned in our direction and started bobbing in a line, rushing toward us, illuminating the path at our feet, glaring brightly in our eyes.

Boy, were we in trouble.

My father held me up off the ground by one arm and swung me down the path all the way to our house.

Do you know how worried your mother was? He yelled. Don't you EVER do this again! What were you thinking?

I was thinking about adventure and pet falcons, of independence and the unknown, and the romance of eating acorn pancakes in the woods. I was testing the universe put forth in a great book, just seeing if I could fit myself into a real life narrative like that, to build my own life into an adventure story. I meant no harm, really.

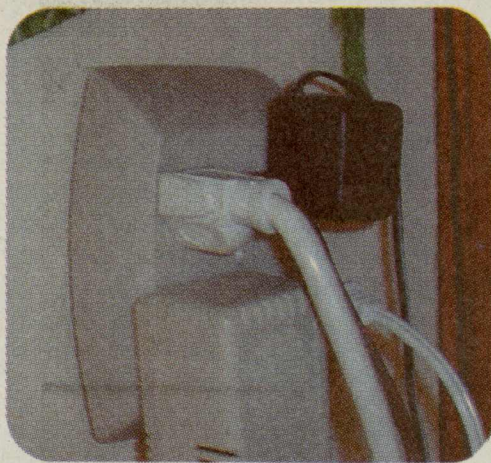
The seed catalogue is thrown casually across my desk as I write today, open to the page selling a recipe book for acorns.

I'm going to buy it

Renters: do you know your rights?

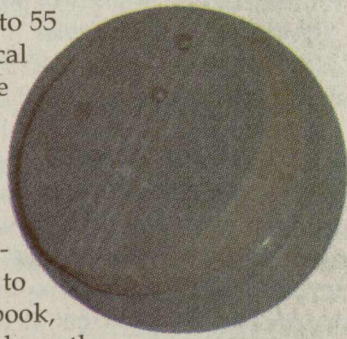
By Regina Rooney

College is the time when many of students get their first apartments. Unfortunately, quite a few go into the experience blind, unaware of which responsibilities belong to the landlord and which belong to them. If the price is right and the place looks decent, most students will say "yes" without a second thought.



However, even in apartments that seem fine there can be problems, sometimes as extreme as rats in the stove or mushrooms sprouting from the bathroom floor. Students need to become informed about their rights as renters in order to protect themselves and to stay healthy.

When renting an apartment or other rental unit, one cannot be discriminated against on the basis of age, gender, color, race, nationality, or religion. However, Vermont State law provides for renter protection in more ways than just these. For instance, though it is up to a landlord and tenant to agree on who pays for garbage removal, a landlord must provide covered, watertight trash bins for outside of buildings containing more than one rental unit. It is required that all apartments include a fire extinguisher, usually located in or near the kitchen, and there must be functional smoke detectors in or near all sleeping rooms and in the basement. If the apartment comes with heat included, then that heat must be available to tenants whenever the outside temperature dips to 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Electrical regulations require that there be at least two power outlets, or one power outlet and a ceiling light, in all livable rooms. First time renters often are unaware of requirements like these. According to the Renting in Vermont handbook, "Under Vermont law, tenants have the right to safe and decent housing...The warranty of habit-



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ability is implied in the rental agreement, whether oral or written..." This means that, whether or not a lease has been signed, a landlord is responsible for keeping the facility up to

code, and can be held accountable if he or she fails to do

Many landlords make sure they comply with these regulations, and if a problem is brought to their attention, they deal with it promptly. However, this is not always the case, and new renters often do not know what steps to take. Vermont Tenants, Inc. (VTI) seeks to educate and counsel tenants on their rights. If a renter has a question, he or she can call the VTI hotline and leave a brief message with

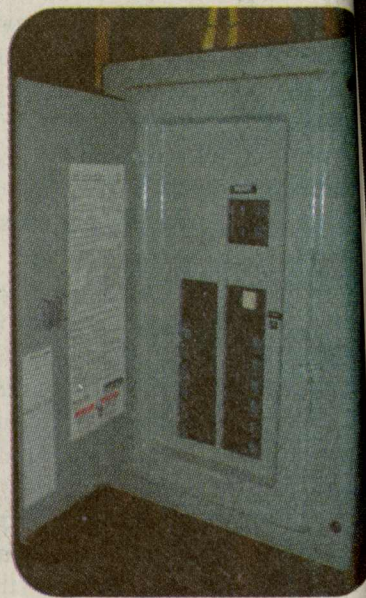


name, number, and a description of the issue.

A representative will return the call, usually within a day, and offer advice on what channels to take. Most commonly, they get questions about code violations, habitability and maintenance issues, leases, eviction, and security deposits. You can also leave a message requesting Renting in Vermont, a comprehensive guide to tenant and landlord responsibilities

published by VTI. According to Ted Wimpey, the Director of Statewide Housing Services for the Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, under which VTI is run, there are different actions to take when a problem occurs, depending on whether the it is a major or minor code violation. Major code violations are ones that pose severe risks to health and safety, and the tenant can withhold rent until these are taken care of. In the case of a minor code violation, if the landlord does not take care of it in a reasonable amount of time, the tenant can pay a reasonable price to have it done or do it themselves, and subtract that cost from his or her rent. However, the cost is not to exceed one half of one month's rent. Wimpey urged student tenants to educate themselves about their rights. "It's always good to have informed renters out there."

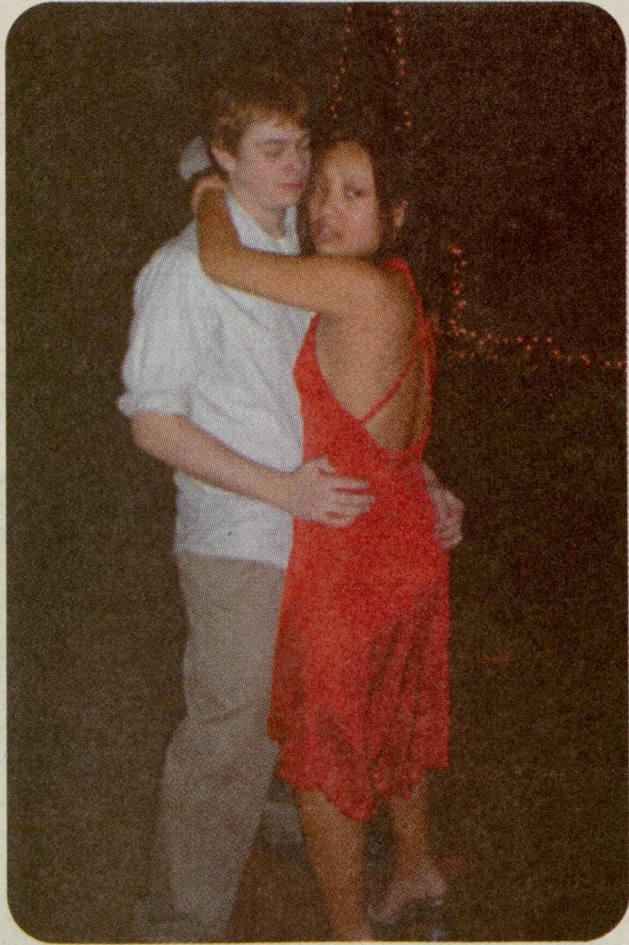
For more information, or to get a handbook, call the VTI hotline at (800) 287-7971, or visit www.cvoeo.org/vti/vti-index.htm, where an online version of the handbook is available.



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*LSC students
show off
their moves*



Nine faculty positions to open up for fall semester

Is faculty turnover a growing problem?

By: Jordan Manges

Over the next seven months before the fall semester begins, Lyndon State College will have nine faculty positions to fill. Cheryl Goldrick, administrative assistant with the Department of Academic Affairs confirms that there is an opening within each of the following academic departments: Biology, Chemistry, Meteorology, Psychology, Social Science, English, and Outdoor Recreation and Management. There are two positions opening up with the Television Studies department, one of them being a completely new position dealing with online journalism.

Goldrick said there are various explanations for so many positions opening up. Three of the faculty leaving were on a temporary basis, and at least one of the positions is brand new to the college. Goldrick also said that since Kurt Singer retired from the English department at least two years ago, a full replacement for his position has to be filled as well.

As of yet, none of the positions have officially been filled. According to Goldrick the college has advertised the positions thoroughly, and as a result there has been a sufficient amount of interest to keep the Academic

A f f a i r s
Department sifting through

applications. A deadline for when the college will no longer accept applicants has not been set, and

Goldrick said that a steady stream of applications will keep rolling in over the next couple of months giving the

college a chance to narrow the field down to the most high quality prospects for the position.

LSC senior wins free airline ticket



Lyndon State College senior Leslie Engle of Wells River (r) is making plans for the round trip American Airlines ticket she won as the result of being selected at random for her participation in the fall ARAMARK dining services survey at Lyndon State. The ticket is good for any destination in the 48 states or

Canada. On the left is Charley Pashley of Lyndon, LSC food service director since last fall and coincidentally a 20-year veteran of the airline food service industry. ARAMARK, the College's food service provider, conducts the survey nationally twice each year to keep tabs on ways to improve student

satisfaction.

Engle is the daughter of Robert Engle of Wells River, owner of Walter E. Jock Oil, and Dawn Polli of Norwich and West Palm Beach, Fla. She is currently a reporter for LSC-TV News 7 and is also working at WGMT radio in Lyndonville as a reporter. She will graduate on May 15.

Jen Kirchoff named to international softball team

LSC softball team will have a global representative

By Adam Desautels
Jen Kirchoff of Lyndonville is really excited to be a part of the SA Athletes international softball team. She was recently chosen to play for the team, and will be traveling across the globe to play against teams from Sweden, Norway and Belgium. Her national standings in the sport have given her opportunity to match her talents against other amateur

athletes. She was chosen to play the shortstop or third base position.

In order to be a part of the team she has to raise three thousand dollars. She is only four hundred dollars away from her goal thanks to local sponsors and Lyndon State College. The trip will take her to Stockholm Sweden for ten days, from June 10th until June 20th.



Jen has played softball since the age of 8. At Lyndon State she has been team captain and All Conference member for two years. In 2004, she was ranked nationally by the NAIA in seven categories, including first with most runs batted per game, first for individual stolen base average and fifth in batting average (.472).

Kirchoff enjoys playing Ice Hockey, and also plays soccer for LSC. She recently coached a softball team for nine and ten year olds. Morning practices for Lyndon State softball has just started, and Jen is happy to be training and getting prepared for her trip in June. She thinks the experience she will have in Sweden will help her career and she would eventually like to try out for the US Olympic softball team.

LSC awarded \$50,000 Donchian Grant

Following a visit to the Lyndon State College campus last June by three Foundation representatives, the Alma Gibbs Donchian Foundation has awarded \$50,000 to the College to create a so-called "Smart Classroom."

A "Smart Classroom" is one outfitted with the latest in technology. It will include a smart podium (to control all equipment in the room), a visual presenter (to handle all image projection, a flat plasma screen, for high-resolution display from computers, videotape and videodisc media), a smart board overlay system (an interactive, touch-sensitive whiteboard that turns a PC and projector into a powerful tool for teaching, collaborating and presenting) and a digital video camera and VHS/CD/DVD player.

Business professor Gordon Haym is excited about the advances the new classroom will make possible in his

teaching. "The use of technology as a pedagogical tool has been increasing almost at an exponential rate. As we become an e-world, students expect more and more technology integrated into their learning experiences in order to keep pace with the real world," he said.

The Donchian Foundation grant follows the College's five-year Title III grant, which funded technology for faculty to integrate online and multimedia resources into their teaching.

The Alma Gibbs Donchian Foundation, based in Castleton, Vt., provides assistance to specified institutions in Castleton and the immediate environs to support projects dealing with issues affecting the elderly, education and programs or agencies engaged in the furtherance of fundamental values. Grants range from a few thousand dollars up to \$25,000. In

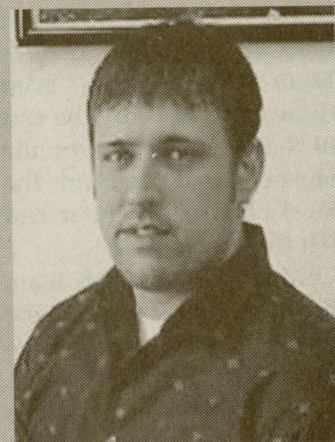
unique circumstances, the Foundation considers a more significant grant, such as the

one to Lyndon State, that will have a major impact in one or more areas of interest.

LSC gets new activities director

Eric McLaughlin of St. Johnsbury, new activities director at Lyndon State College, arrived on campus on January 17, just in time for the spring semester. McLaughlin fills a position left vacant when his predecessor left unexpectedly in September for personal reasons.

McLaughlin is a recent graduate of Ohio University, where he earned an M.Ed. degree in higher education administration. His bachelor's degree is from the University of Rio Grande, located in Rio Grande, Ohio. He has experience in the business world and has taught mathematics and history at the middle school level.



As student activities director, McLaughlin works in the Office of Student Affairs and with students to schedule activities and events, and he also works with Catamount Arts in St. Johnsbury, with which the College partners for part of its performance schedule.

Sports

LSC women's soccer team continues dominance

By: Dave Poczobut

For the unprecedented third year in a row, the Lyndon State College Hornets Women's Soccer team have won their conference.

Coach Miles Etter, who started coaching three years ago and is undefeated in conference championship play said that "Winning a third straight Sunrise Title was a great accomplishment."

Etter also said that while most of his expectations for this year were met, some were not. "Our goals for the season included winning more games," said Etter. "We believed we could challenge the most wins by a Lyndon Women's Team, which we didn't even come close to." By the end of the season, however, the Hornets had reached the level of play that Etter had felt they could attain.

Machias was the team that Lyndon beat in the finals of the Sunrise Conference Championship, but they had Lyndon's number earlier in the season when the Hornets were down three starters due to injuries. During the finals, the Hornets controlled the game at times, and battled for their lives to come away with the win. The surprise for the Lady Hornets was a trip to Ohio, which they went into the finals not even

knowing about.

Etter said that the biggest reason for this past year's success was due to their personnel. Nine players returned from last year's championship team, and six new faces came on board to help bring a third championship home.

"This combination gave us more depth than the last season and a chance to expand several components of our game. Several players returned from two previous championships and gave us a solid level of confidence and strong support for our new players. We also have some very mentally tough players who, under trying circumstances, kept us focused and motivated," said Etter.

Unfortunately, the Hornets are losing three seniors this year to graduation. They are Lindsay McGuire, Erika Hardy and Darcy Leblanc. Etter said that the team loses experience and talent from those three individuals, but now will have three freshmen that are a year older and more experienced. He said that there are a few players who have situations that will challenge their availability next year.

Reflecting on the past season, Etter said that the team learned and mastered several small aspects of the game. As a team and as

individuals, their defending tactics and strategies developed greatly, allowing them to compete at the regional level. Etter also said that the final key component that helped elevate the Hornets' game was their communication with each other.

"Communication is very vital to allowing a team to play to its max and we raised our level the most down the stretch." "These elements combined were the most important for our success," he said.

After winning a third title in a row, one wouldn't think a team would need to do things differently in the next season, and while there aren't many things for the team to do differently, Etter said the first task needed for the team to progress is to give the opportunity for the players to play out of season and to have a more focused approach to conditioning in conjunction with playing. The other major task, said Etter, is to spend greater time and energy in recruiting for their future.

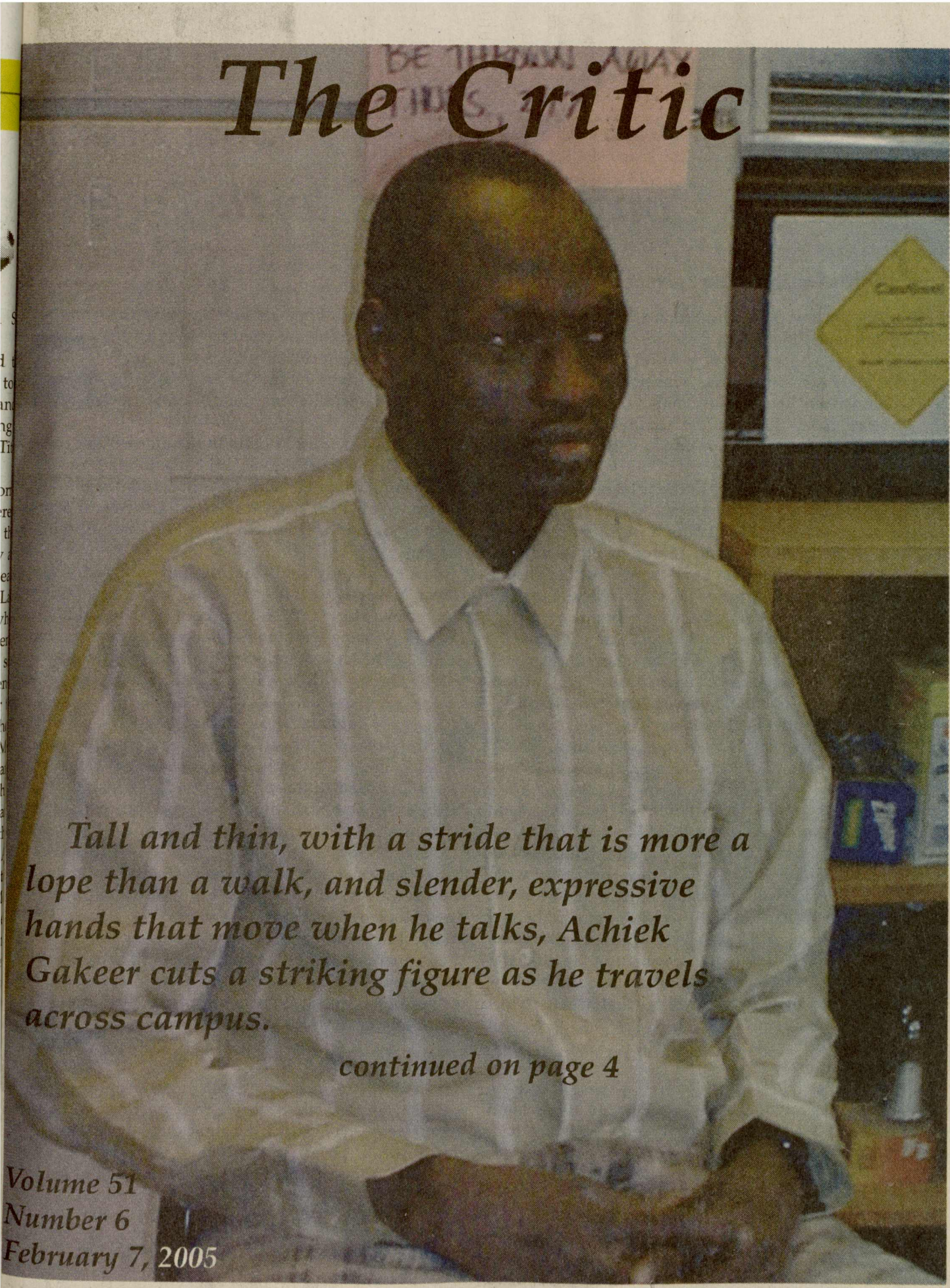
Etter said that he is very grateful that former Athletic Director, Darrell "Skip" Pound, gave him the opportunity three years ago. "It has been very satisfying to see our level of play improve and the program strengthen. I want to thank the ladies who have worked and sacrificed in their com-

mitment to Lyndon State Women's Soccer.

results have mirrored the work. I look forward to continued growth and a final chance at winning Sunrise Conference Title," he said.

Not only did the Hornets win a Sunrise Conference Championship for the third year in a row, but they also finished as runners-up earlier in the year in the Lady Bengals Tournament, which they had lost due to penalty kicks. Individually, several players were chosen as players of the week for the Sunrise Conference. Their names include M. Skidmore, Darcy LeBlanc, Jen Kirchoff, Ch. Riendeau, Erika Hardy, and Jess Perron. Players that made it on the Conference Teams consist of Darcy LeBlanc, M. Skidmore, Autumn Falt, Jen Kirchoff and Ch. Riendeau. Honorable mention for All Conference went to Becky Armstrong, Erika Hardy and Lindsay McGuire. On top of all that, the Offensive Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year and Rookie of the Year all went to members of the Lady Hornets. The award for Offensive Player of the Year went to Darcy LeBlanc, Defensive Player of the Year to Jen Kirchoff, and Rookie of the Year to M. Skidmore.

The Critic



Tall and thin, with a stride that is more a lope than a walk, and slender, expressive hands that move when he talks, Achiek Gakeer cuts a striking figure as he travels across campus.

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Volume 51
Number 6
February 7, 2005

*Sometimes the best
talks can come from
the most unlikely sources,
in this case, it was . . .*

Conversations with Tigerily

By Marla Sawyer

The lily had long since dropped away in never-never land by the time I met Tiger. She was just an old Indian woman then — short, thin and painful in her gait whenever she freed herself from her wheelchair; living poorly and alone two floors below me. When I heard that she scavenged for food in the dumpster behind the Chinese restaurant, I was outraged. Not here. Not while I lived in this building.

I greeted her one morning in the urine-scented elevator. Her coarse gray hair stretched like stiff wires past her shoulder, in effect elongating a bony, coffee-toned face that was so gouged and folded over itself with crevices, it seemed she must have to puff out her cheeks with air to wash the depths of those wrinkles. I expected a quiver or twitch of acknowledgement, or even an unconscious expression of annoyance. There was none. She simply ignored me and continued looking straight ahead.

"I live on the fourth floor with my two children." I continued. "Number 408. Feel free to come by to visit." No response. The elevator opened at the second floor and she shuffled out.

A couple of weeks later, when everybody's food stamps were running low, my neighbor said Tiger was dumpster-diving again, so my first-grader and I walked over to Grand Union and bought some groceries. I wondered if Tiger, so old and frail, had any diet restrictions, but surely the garbage gleanings could not meet them. I got her fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grain bread, canned tuna and chicken, some low sodium, low fat staples, yogurt and sherbet. Sheila and I put the bags by her door, and I whispered to Sheila, "Ssshh. We're just going to knock and run."

"Why, Mommy?"

"Because she might feel funny and shy if we hand them to her. We don't want to make her feel bad. Ready?"

Ready.

We knocked and ran to the stairwell. A half hour later, when we nonchalantly walked down the stairs

and peeked into her hallway, the groceries were gone. Sheila's wide smile matched my own as she exclaimed, "Mommy, she got the bags!"

I greeted Tiger in the lobby. I greeted her on the street. She would not condescend to reply. Weeks passed.

One day, when I said hello in the lobby, Tiger replied, "You're on the fourth floor. I'll come to visit."

We entered the elevator together, rode to the fourth floor, and sat at my kitchen table, where Tiger remained chain-smoking, for the next four hours telling me who she was.

As I've already said, the lily had dropped away. Never Never land long ago, but Tiger could sure tell some stories. She started out in a factual manner, sharing with me her happy memory of a circus she had attended in St. Johnsbury many years ago, with elephants and giraffes and monkeys.

Banners were flying, balloons were bobbing, and then — then Tiger's flat brown eyes got misty, and her face softened. Her hands started fluttering in her lap, she stared out my kitchen window with intensity, even rapture, tendrils of tobacco smoke rising around her face as she erupted into a wild story.

She said she could communicate with animals, and she rode an elephant right out of that circus ring, right down Railroad Street, and the crowds were cheering and yelling, and she was never scared at all — because she knew the elephant's heart was good, and she was in no danger at all, but the people in the street had to divert for safety because — you can be sure — that elephant wasn't about to stop for anyone . . .

Really?! I said.

"Oh, yes. And that wasn't the end of it. The circus people were trying to catch that elephant but the elephant didn't want to get caught — it wanted to be free, you know — so all the dogs in town decided to help the elephant . . ."

I watched the joyful exuberance light up her face, and

Continued on page 5

Editorial Health Care...

The cost of doctor's bills and prescription drugs are rising everyday, and with them the cost of health care goes up. In fact, the only thing that seems to be going down is the amount of your bill that health care will actually pay for.

The college insurance is no exception to this rule. Every year the college changes health care providers in an effort to keep the cost of insurance down. No student is allowed to attend LSC full time without having health care, whether through the

school or through another source.

However, the college health care system will only pay for so many prescription drugs before the student must start paying instead. In other words, there is a cap on the amount of money insurance will pay. As we all know from the segments on the news about how our seniors are suffering, all kinds of prescription drugs cost a lot.

There is also a certain amount that insurance will pay on doctor's bills, most of the time not even half of what

is owed. As a result, many students owe a significant amount of money to hospitals and clinics, a bill which competes with the cost of living and their tuition to college.

What is the point of paying so much for insurance when the insurance won't pay for anything?

People who deny that there is an enormous problem with the rising cost of health care and the stinginess of insurance companies either have excellent insurance, or enough money to pay their bills.

Goodbye...

Writer Hunter S. Thompson died two weeks ago of a self-inflicted gun wound.

Thompson is often credited with inventing "Gonzo Journalism," or a type of journalism which generally places the author in the article, and

tends to be more novelistic.

Thompson covered many politically historical events, most of which he professed to cover while under the influence of drugs or alcohol. He is perhaps best known for the novel "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas," which was later

turned into a movie starring Johnny Depp and Benicio del Toro.

However delightfully demented and drugged up Thompson may have been, he was still a genius and an original thinker. We will miss him.

To the Editor:

The format, color photographs, and hugely improved writing (and especially the editing of that writing) in The Critic this year result in a really good read every time a new number comes out. There's

maturity in the editorial focus; genuine literary talent in Marla Sawyer's memoir pieces; and a nice balance of on-campus news, sports, and significant community issues (e.g., Rooney on renters' rights, Manges on Seasonal Affective Disorder,

Miner on Mono in the February 1st issue). The paper is a good job by an entire team and speaks well of the life of the mind at the College.

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The Critic is a bi-weekly publication that serves the Lyndon State College Community. Feel free to send comments to critic@lyndonstate.edu

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The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. Generally, the Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

Letters

The Critic

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COVER STORY

Achiek Gakeer: A Survivor's Story

By Regina Rooney

Tall and thin, with a stride that is more a lope than a walk, and slender, expressive hands that move when he talks, Achiek Gakeer cuts a striking figure as he travels across campus. Today, his stark white shirt contrasts with his skin, making the adjective "black" seem inadequate; the truth would be closer to ebony. Up close I can see three thin curves on his high forehead; marks, he tells me, from a Dinka tribal ritual he received when he was about 8 years old.

The war in Southern Sudan broke out in 1983 between the Arab Muslim government and the Southern Sudanese rebels, calling themselves the Sudan People's Liberation Army. The people of the south are mostly Christian, and they hoped to win freedom from a government that favored its own religious majority. In January, a peace agreement was finally reached in Sudan; there will be six years during which the government is expected to make changes, giving religious freedom and more governing power to the Southern Sudanese. At the end of this time, the Southern Sudanese will be able to vote whether to secede or to stay with the government, if it has improved enough to meet their standards. During the nearly 22 years of war that preceded this agreement,

over 2 million people in Southern Sudan died, mostly from starvation and disease, and over 4 million were displaced from their homes. Some of those who were driven out have ended up here in America, and

good medicine to treat people," he explained. "People were dying in the camps." Though there was little to no food and inadequate sanitation, one thing Achiek and his counterparts did make sure they got was as much

others were brought to the U.S., where they were settled in different cities across the country. Nearly 400 came to the Burlington area.

At first, Achiek was taken into the home of a Colchester family with another Sudanese boy. The family, members of Andrew's Episcopal Church in Colchester, helped to settle Achiek into an unfamiliar landscape. Though he received a lot of support from church and community members, soon enough he was on his own and had to fend for himself. He was given an apartment and money to get through the first month, but was expected to get a job and begin earning money to pay his way. He went to work at the hospital, cleaning, but after a while he got a new job at Colchester High School, working eight hours a night. Sometimes, when he and his friend Moumou could not find a ride, they had to walk an hour through the blowing snow to get home. At the same time, fueled by an insatiable desire to become educated and better his situation, he began attending Colchester High for another eight hours a day. The adjustment to this new way of life was not easy: "The different culture was a problem. When we got to school the curriculum also became too hard and we had to get used to it," said Achiek.

"...even if they were starving, they wouldn't leave school..."

have been named "The Lost Boys of Sudan." Here at LSC we have eight such young men; Achiek is our newest Sudanese student. Though Sudan is a mere plane flight away, the world Achiek was born into seems completely different from the one he now inhabits. He is a member of the Pulk Aliab tribe, located in Southern Sudan close to the Nile River. He is one of seven children; his father had two wives. The war began when he was about two, and when he was about eight the rebels came and took him and many other young boys to Ethiopia. Achiek credits them with saving his life, though this began a long journey that has brought him far from home. In Ethiopia, he lived in a crowded camp with many other refugees, where conditions resulted in even more deaths. "There's no

schooling as possible. It was in these camps that they began learning English. The students were so determined that, "even if they were starving, they wouldn't leave school because it would help him or her in the future when Southern Sudan got independence."

When the Soviet Union broke up, the political currents in Ethiopia became unfriendly, and these homeless souls again had to flee, this time to Kenya. But even in Kenya they were not safe, and they faced the same problems of inadequate supplies and unsanitary conditions as before. Finally, help came in the form of the United Nations and ambassadors from different countries, including the United States. In July 2001, after an interview process, Achiek and many

Continued on page 5

Tigerlily

cont'd from page 2

her go on. Now and then I'd interject with "imagine that!" or "that's amazing!" and Tiger talked on as if she had stored up all her words for the last twenty years.

After that day, Tiger came to my apartment regularly to dinner.

Sometimes she would knock on the door while I was typing or writing a news article, and I'd tell her I couldn't visit right now because I had to work. She said she wouldn't talk at all if I'd let her stay, she just didn't want to be alone anymore. She would then sit and watch The Wizard of Oz video while I typed.

Tiger loved that movie.

One Saturday morning Tiger said she had never seen

the ocean in all her life, and it made her sad to think she would die without ever seeing the ocean.

"Do you want to see the ocean?" I asked

"Oh, yes. Someday – maybe I will."

"Let's go."

Tiger looked at me with her head cocked to one side like I was nuts. When?

"Right now. Let's go. It's a bit of a drive – a few hours. You up for it?"

Tiger's eyebrows flew up as she clapped her hands and her gums collapsed into an astonished O. "Yes!"

So began one of the greatest days of my life.

[To be continued]

Achieker

cont'd from page 4

However, in June of 2004 Achiek proudly accepted his diploma from Colchester

High School.

He was not done there.

He had applied to Castleton,

Verdun, and Community

College of Vermont. In

January 2005 he began class-

as a full time student at

Castleton, majoring in Social

Science. Here, he faces

many new challenges; the

work is harder and more

demanding and writing inten-

sive than it was in high

school. He struggles with

the frustration of not being

able to express his ideas and

thoughts in his classes, and

works extra hard on his

papers. Despite his unpar-

alleled willpower and deter-

mination, college is going to

be a long road for him,

with more challenges and

obstacles to a life already

filled with adversity.

Nevertheless, he plans on

continuing.

Achieker is a man of

dreams and ambitions. He

plans to eventually earn a

master's degree in Social

Science and work in politics,

or possibly even for the

United Nations. While in

high school in Colchester, he

and some fellow refugees

founded the Aliab

Community Development

Association, which seeks to

raise money to help educate

and improve the life of

native people at home in

Southern Sudan. The web-

site, www.aliabdinka.com, states

their purpose as being to

"actively advocate for

peaceful coexistence in the

Communities of South

Sudan...with the long term

goal as the creation of self-

reliance, independent,

peaceful and literate com-

munities in the New

Sudan." Colchester High

gave the organization \$900,

and he wishes to inform

people here in hopes that

they, too, will contribute to

the cause he holds so dear.

In spite of the atrocities

and violence, the running

and hiding, the displace-

ment from his home and

move across the ocean,

Achieker remains hopeful for

the future. Right now, his

life is looking up. He is in

college, on the road to real-

izing his dream of a degree

and then a job. His country

is at peace for the first time

in years and has won its

long fight for greater auton-

omy. And, in July of 2004,

Achieker traveled to Uganda

to see his family, and to be

married. It is an arranged

marriage and his bride still

lives in Sudan with her fam-

ily, but he plans someday to

bring her here, when he has

the money. "These three

things make me happy," he

says, a big smile spreading

across his face.

Though a peace agree-

ment has been reached in

Southern Sudan, there is still

fighting in other parts, such

as the Darfur region in the

west, where conflict began

in 2003. Arab militias hired

by the government swoop

down on villages, raping

women and killing men; it

has become a form of ethnic

cleansing, and Colin Powell

even called it genocide.

Despite this, the internation-

al community has turned a

largely blind eye; some have

said this is because of fear

that the peace accord for

Southern Sudan would fall

through. However, Achiek

finds this a poor excuse. "I

think the international com-

munity should do more by

sending troops to protect

people who are continuing

to be killed by the govern-

ment," he says, his eyes

burning with intensity. He

is a young man of passion

and determination, who

clearly will not stop until he

reaches his goals and helps

in making a new, peaceful,

and prosperous Sudan. For

now, he resides here at

Lyndon State, where he

struggles daily but finds

rewards in his work, and

forges ties he hopes will

help him in the future. He

ends the interview with a

handshake, a smile and a

wish: to "Make American

people our best friends for

what they did to us...to

share some of the things

which will make us a good

friend for the future.

LSC feels loss of former professor

By: Rachael Morrow

A former Lyndon State College English professor passed away on Thursday, February 14.

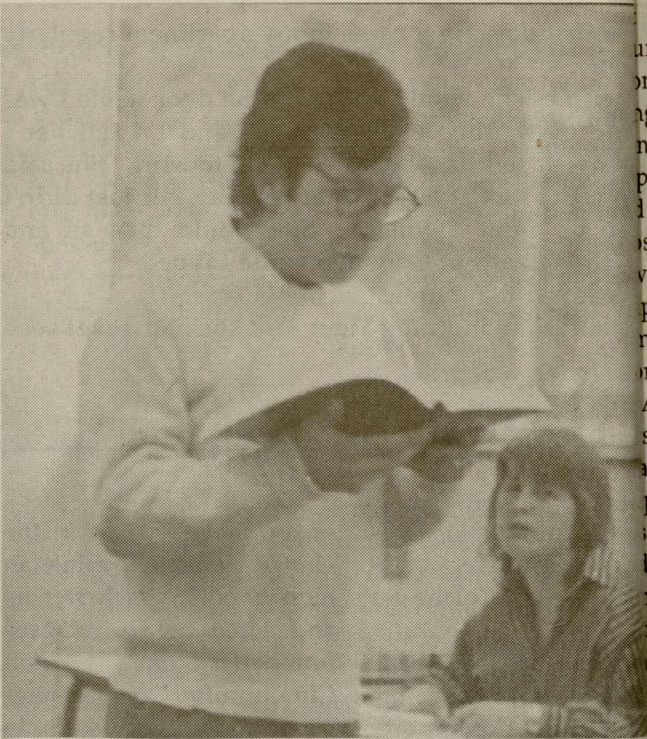
James Doyle taught literature at LSC for 15 years, and was teaching here before any of the current English faculty. He last taught at LSC in 2000. He taught classes like Mythology and Greek and Roman Classics, but was perhaps best known to most students as the instructor of Introduction to Literature.

Fellow teachers say Doyle had a way with students. "He had this magic capacity to talk to you personally without knowing you," said Professor Richard Moyer, in whose office resides a number of mementoes left from Doyle's years at the college.

Doyle's classes were difficult to get into, since they were so popular with students and filled up very quickly. There was also a constant stream of students in his office, pouring out problems and confessions. Many former students still consider Doyle a major influence in their lives. Moyer said that Doyle was like a father figure, and was always helping students and bailing them out of trouble.

"Without a doubt, [he was] the most important and influential teacher I ever had," said Lee Webster, a former pupil of Doyle's. "And an amazing, authentic human being."

He was born in Cambridge, Mass., on April 9, 1944. He received his Doctorate from Harvard University, and went on to teach at Fordham University in New York. In 1980, Doyle began teaching at Lyndon. After retirement, he was named Professor Emeritus.



He was also a Red Sox fan, and said he was happy to have lived long enough to see the Sox win the World Series.

Doyle is survived by his wife, Ellen, as well as his sons, Joshua and Benjamin, and grandson Cortland.

"He was easily the finest teacher I have ever seen anywhere," said Moyer. "He was also the finest person I've known, and those two things together are pretty."

The man behind the mailroom

By: Jordan Manges

Down in the depths of the Vail basement is the college mailroom, through which every student's precious piece of mail travels. The mailroom though, is much more than the place where a student picks up their care-package from Mom. This haven for all things UPS or FedEx is also the second home, so to speak, to the "Dean of the mailroom", Harry Swett.

Even if you don't find a piece of mail waiting for you somewhere within the walls of the mailroom, you can always find the warm, cheerful greetings of Harry Swett.

Swett estimates he has been heading up the operations of the mailroom for about thirteen years. He first came to Lyndon State as a custodian, but when there was a job opening in the mailroom, he stepped

in. Swett is a born and raised Vermonter, having grown up on a farm in North Danville, and he now lives with his wife in Danville. Everyday he makes the trip in to LSC to oversee the mailroom. A modest man, Swett insists that he not take all the credit for keeping the mailroom running as smoothly as it does. According to him, if it weren't for the workstudy

students working there, the place just wouldn't function.

Swett's appreciation for the students is something he makes every effort to convey to them and to anyone else on a daily basis. When approaching the mailroom window to pick up a package, you can't help but feel the pleasant atmosphere of the place come wafting out toward you along with the sound

Swett

cont'd from page 4

the radio playing. Swett is a firm believer in the notion that what you put out, you get back in turn. He puts every effort and energy into creating a working environment that is serious and possible, but also fun and understanding. For those efforts Swett is rewarded with workstudy employees who come back next semester after semester to work.

A man with two daughters and a three year old grandson, nothing is more important to Swett than his family. What he considers to be his second family is the LSC community. For Swett, seeing the transformation of an inex-

perienced freshman student as they continually pick up their mail over the

course of four years and eventually walk away from LSC a mature gradu-

ate is one of the biggest perks of the job.



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Construction of residence halls continues

By Nicole Miner

While students hurry in between buildings going to class in negative thirty-degree weather, the workers on the new residence halls are standing outside from six a.m. in the morning until four thirty p.m., hanging up plywood and laying brick.

The construction on the new residence halls is moving along slowly, but surely. The weather has of course slowed down production, but working through the cold will ensure that the buildings are completed for the start of next semester.

Tom Archer, the foreman of the project, said that the building does have some heat to keep the mortar and the masonry work warm. It is also kept at a decent temperature for the workers.

Heating the buildings can be a very expensive decision. Propane is used to heat the buildings and propane costs between \$1.09 and \$1.12 a gallon. On really cold days it can cost up to \$700 to heat the buildings. Having propane heaters also brings about a need for carbon monoxide detectors. The propane heat is very muggy and if it is too warm it becomes uncomfortable for the workers, so they keep the temperature at about forty-five degrees.

The heat is shut off at night in most of the buildings but it is kept on in the mason's tents to keep the mortar and brick warm and in the lower level to keep

the water main from freezing. The mason's are using Vermont brick, which is a very dense, water resistant brick that will last a very long time because it does not absorb water and shift. It is quite a pain to work with though. It must remain warm to work with and on cold days it is hard to keep the brick and mortar warm moving from the mason's tents to the build-

ing where the brick is going. The masons will abandon the job at zero degrees; it becomes too cold for them to work.

So far this winter "negative twenty three degrees is the coldest we have worked in," said Archer. When asked what the worst job was to do in the cold, Archer replied, "The roofers worked in windy ten degree weather... and

zero degree weather make the building proof."

The weather does damper in the speed of the project, but Archer says that the project was going ahead at the expected. The buildings coming along great they are right on schedule. The expected completion date is August of this



Tom Archer, project foreman, stands in front of the new buildings which are still under construction.

The Critic

"Serving the student voice at Lynden State College"

*LSC students experience
an endless Italian spring*

*Volume 51
Number 7
March 23, 2005*

Hard goodbyes . . .

A brother's departure for Iraq

By Regina Rooney

My older brother, Dennis, a member of the Army's 101st Airborne Division, was sent to Afghanistan soon after September 11, and almost immediately after his return he was shipped to Iraq. This past Christmas, it was my younger brother, 19 year-old Damon, who we were preparing to say goodbye to. "Little D," the baby of the family and my favorite, who had joined the National Guard right out of high school, was headed overseas to fight. For me, who knows him as a kid who can't cook macaroni-and-cheese from a box and whose room is permanently covered by a layer of dirty laundry, it was hard to really believe that he was leaving for 18 months to load shells into a tank. Unfortunately, reality has a way of creeping up, no matter how much I want to ignore it, and the stream of goodbye parties, socials, and receptions that we all attended after the New Year brought his upcoming departure home to me. Because Dennis had always deployed from his base in Tennessee, none of us had ever experienced the sort of public, shared experience of saying goodbye that we went through when Charlie Company got called up.

We got word in mid-December that Damon had been activated. He had been on alert since June, so long that I had all but dismissed the possibility of



anything coming of it. What I will always remember about that Christmas will be the goodbye parties. Relatives and friends, determined to see Damon before he left, came to and hosted numerous gatherings in his honor. After a time I began to hate these events, obligated as family to attend yet feeling each time as if I too

were bidding him farewell. The parties were a constant reminder that he was leaving, while I tried with all my might to ignore that very fact. When Dennis left to go back down South, he told Damon good luck and, uncharacteristically for him, gave him a real, lingering hug. One part of me began to wish Damon would just



get it over with and goce we could all stop say, wir goodbye again and again. The

On January 19, over 3 people gathered at Champlain Valley exp tion to send the soldiers but I had eyes only for few who had risen bet five in the morning driven through the 20 be weather to be there for brother. Everyone y th painfully aware that the se diers would be marchun straight from format T onto the buses which wos a take them to the airport, E ar the best we could do hang around and me strained small talk in efforts to stay composed. It

At last, the momgre came.

"At this time we respect fully ask that the famiger separate themselves from the soldiers and let the move into formation," C woman's voice came ovas the loudspeaker. We lookcl at one another in breathleju silence for a second, and S knew suddenly that I'd liap that I'd do anything to keva time from moving, that I stay in this goodbye forevha if it meant he didn't havegu go. Damon embraced the friends that were there, the worked his way around Mom and I. First he hugg me, hard, and then Mom and then all three of us we tangled up, holding o nobody wanting to let go. Finally we pulled back, of us wiping our eyes, an Mom and I trudged to o

See SOLDIER on page 1

Editorial

Wind power

One of the more controversial issues to hit the state since civil unions seems to be wind towers.

There's a proposal in the works to put four wind towers, standing 220 feet tall, each equipped with three rotating black blades 115 feet long, on top of East Mountain in East Haven. The towers would replace a radar base long abandoned by the Air Force, which can be seen by most of the surrounding towns.

The problem? Wind towers are considered to be a bit of an eyesore, especially in

an area of the state that is noted for its pleasing scenery and the tourist dollars that scenery brings in.

Concerns have also been raised about the effects the towers will have on area wildlife (bird migration, bats, etc.), property values, and the fact that the turbines don't make good neighbors. They have a habit of flinging ice off their blades as they rotate, which is the reason that officials say the towers can't be located in a more populated area.

One point in their favor, however, is the fact that

wind towers are a cleaner source of energy than many of the current methods in use.

As we move forward in the 21st century, especially under the current administration and their lax pollution regulations, maybe a move toward clean energy is more important than seeing a horizon clear of man-made structures.

It is, however, interesting to note that all three of the people who will ultimately decide whether wind towers will be coming to the Northeast Kingdom are not

Shots fired

Italian journalist Giuliana Sgrena was on her way to the Baghdad airport after being rescued by Italian secret agents when the car she was riding in was fired upon by the U.S. military.

One agent, Nicola Calipari, was killed and several others, including Sgrena, were injured. Sgrena accused the U.S. of intentionally firing upon the vehicle without warning or reason.

The U.S., however, says that the soldiers standing guard fired several warning shots, which went unheeded.

They then fired at the engine block of the car, intending to disable.

Since Sgrena and the agents were, by her own admission, laughing and generally thrilled that she was out of the hands of terrorists, it is entirely possible that they missed the warning shots fired by American soldiers.

Finally, the road Sgrena and her rescuers were traveling is a highly dangerous one. It's probable that the soldiers thought they were about to be attacked by a traveling car bomb. The U.S. Ambassador,

John Negroponte, was also traveling that particular road that particular night, so the armed forces standing guard had yet another reason to be paranoid.

Sgrena's claim that the U.S. deliberately fired upon her is preposterous, insulting, and self-important. Why would the U.S. government care enough about an Italian journalist to shoot at her vehicle? Especially when they knew this type of fallout would immediately follow?

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The Critic is a bi-weekly publication that serves the Lyndon State College Community. Feel free to send comments to critic@lyndonstate.edu

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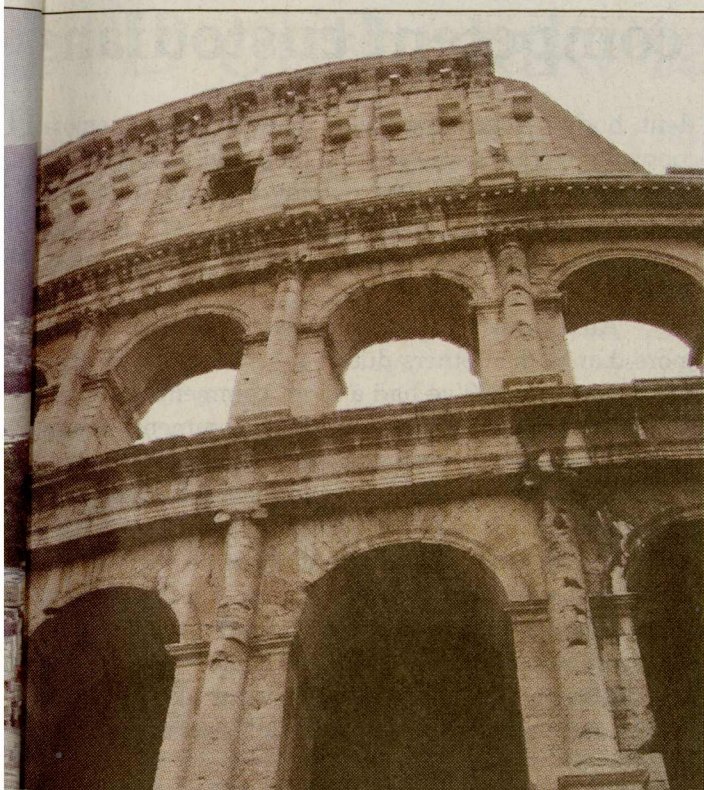
Letters
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Scenes from Italy



ABOVE, IN ITALY, EVEN STRAY DOGS GET THE CHANCE TO ADMIRE THE PICTURESQUE VIEWS OF THE ITALIAN COUNTRYSIDE. BELOW LEFT, THE ORACLE OF DELPHI. BELOW RIGHT, MEGHAN COSBY POSES WITH A LOCAL





ABOVE LEFT, THE CRUMBLING COLOSSEUM STILL STANDS AS A TESTAMENT TO ROMAN ARCHITECTURE.
 ABOVE RIGHT, PALM TREES DECORATE THE POMPEII LANDSCAPE. BELOW, THE ENTIRE GROUP OF TRAVELERS
 POSES ON THE COAST DURING THEIR TRIP.



Spotlight on committed competent custodiansT

By Nicholas Plante

Lyndon State College employs a large pool of workers, and some may go unnoticed by the faculty, or the student body. LSC's custodial staff may go unnoticed, but they do a job very important to the schools operation. Each worker interviewed has a demand to be a custodian, because it fulfilled their individual needs.

Dave Wood, 52, has held the position of Custodial Supervisor since July, 2004. Wood, a native Floridian, came to Vermont after 31 years in Florida because his wife was from Vermont. Prior to his position at LSC, Wood was involved with communications and electronics, within the military and civilian communities. His most recent position was as an operations manager for a cable company.

Gaylon Ely, 58, custodian, came on the job in October, 2004. Ely, a native Vermonter, had his eye on the job, and when an opening became available he retired from his job in sales management of 27 years and came to work at LSC.

Denise Doyon, 39, custodian, started in October, 2004. She's a native Vermonter and she has a degree, as well as experience in hotel/restaurant management.

Tim Hale, 47, custodian, holds seniority over most of the custodial staff. He's been at LSC for about 25 years. He has experience in other jobs including railroad work, and a position at Dartmouth University.

All four members highlighted tuition payments, paid holidays, and insurance as the most sought after benefits. Wood said, "Tuition is free for me, my spouse, and my children," Ely said, "We get 14 paid holidays." The custodial staff and their families have the opportunity to receive an education at Vermont State Colleges, and additionally at The University of Vermont free of charge, in return for their employment at LSC. Ely expressed an additional benefit, "I enjoy coming to work. I like to be around people. You meet a lot of young people with bright minds."

All were impressed with the student body. Hale stated he has never had a "bad" experience with any of the stu-

dent body. Over the years Hale's most memorable moments were the students he met. He talked about the experience of meeting and making a friend from New York who was attending LSC, he said, "That's one thing I like about working here, you meet people from all over the world."

All four feel they're appreciated. Some experience more thanks than others due to where they work on campus. Wood said, "I've had a lot of comments of how much the custodians do." Wood feels the comments express care extend to the whole custodial staff. Ely said, "In this environment up here everyone appreciates what you do, and I'm quite content."

The staff has different shifts, so some begin work at 7 a.m. while others may begin at 2 p.m. Their shifts usually consist of eight hours. Their responsibilities not only cover the cleanliness of the rest rooms, but they cover classroom preparation, and setup for special events like sport competitions, and presentations. Wood expressed the importance of custodial duties, he says, "We want our facility to be a good because people within LSC and organizations outside see them." The only improvement identified was communication inside the subdivision of the custodians between other sections. Although the communication place isn't really bad Wood feels more e-mail communication and enhanced computer literacy would help improve communication.

Those interviewed represent a staff willing to accomplish their job because they want to, not because they have to. The staff's level of talent along with their professionalism is impressive. The members fulfill the talent required for custodial duty and demonstrate how important the job is to LSC. Wood stated, "If you've seen something that's right it most likely a custodian has seen it as well and it's their 'to do list.'" LSC is lucky to have such a fine custodial staff.

How safe is our campus?

By Nicole Miner

The safety and well being of the students on the Lyndon State College campus is the top priority on this campus. We have several departments working to keep the campus safe for all the students and residents. Public safety works to keep the campus safe while

RA's work to keep the peace in the dorm buildings.

6 "Lyndon is a very safe campus,"

Said Leo Sevigny, Associate Dean of Student Affairs. The public safety staff is very strong and they "have an entire other staff working with them." Sevigny is referring to the Residential life staff and RAs that live in the residence halls.

The Director of Public Safety is Charles Lacillade and he oversees all the officers and student workers. Alex Allen is the only public safety officer at Lyndon State College, besides Lacillade,

at the moment, but Sevigny has, "The hopes of hiring someone quite quickly." Sevigny hopes to see a new officer employed within a month, someone who is of the caliber we are accustomed to on this campus.

Public Safety officers are not Police officers, but they generally have some military background or experience with being a security guard. The officers receive a See Public on page

STD outbreak: fact or fiction?

By Regina Rooney

According to Brown House nurse Janet Casey, the rumors of a major STD epidemic on campus are just that: rumors. Casey explained that while LSC is not STD free, it has an average amount of documented cases compared to other colleges. In her five years working here, she reports no major outbreaks, and believes things are getting better.

Casey reported that though it is a small percentage of the campus that gets tested at the Brown House, the number is growing every year. The testing is a simple matter, involving only a urine sample, a visual perineal (pelvic) exam, and one needle stick, which is currently LSC's only

method of testing for HIV. She explained that a full pelvic exam is not usually necessary, since those diseases that are not shown in the urine test are usually easily visible to the naked eye. LSC is currently looking into the new oral HIV test, which would eliminate the need for a shot, but it is not yet available.

A higher level of awareness is what Casey credited as the main factor for the increase in testing, and for the mostly negative results that come back.

"Kids are more aware and they're using condoms more than they used to," she explained. "The majority (of STDs) can be prevented by using condoms."

Before Valentine's Day, the nurses held an informa-

tional clinic in the student center. There were cookies and candy, as well as pamphlets and urine cups (to be returned later) available. To their disappointment, only about 15 students approached the table. Though some have suggested the low attendance was partly due to the day and time it was held, Casey believed it had more to do with the subject matter. She said they will probably try once more next semester, but stressed the every day availability of information at the Brown House. There are comprehensive pamphlets available in the sitting room; it is easy to discreetly pick one up at any time the office is open.

In the battle against STDs, prevention is the

number one factor, and regular testing is the second most important. Along with testing comes following up on the results. Casey was shocked when students have been called and have not returned the calls for months. Most STDs are treatable but some have far-reaching effects if ignored, which can include infertility and cancer.

The staff at the Brown House is waiting to answer questions or help any way they can. Casey stressed the nonjudgmental nature of the staff, stating that they only wish to help students, not to form negative opinions about them. "We want people to be safe and healthy: that's our priority in life."

HOW TO REGISTER FOR SUMMER AND FALL 2005 COURSES DURING PRIORITY REGISTRATION

Advisors will have access to students' degree audits and transcripts on-line. However, it is recommended that students print off a copy of their degree audits to take to their meeting with their advisor.

Students and faculty should be able to **view the Summer and Fall schedules through the LSC portal at blackboard.vsc.edu** by the end of the day on **Monday, March 14th**. With the approval of your advisor, you will be able to register yourself for Summer and Fall classes, through MAPLE, per the registration schedule below. Otherwise, you will register for classes with your advisor, or your advisor will sign a written form and you will register directly at the Registrar's Office window.

SENIORS (90 or greater earned credit hours)	Monday, March 21, Tuesday, March 22
JUNIORS (60 – 89 earned credit hours)	Wednesday, March 23, Thursday, March 24
SOPHOMORES (30 – 59 earned credit hours)	Friday, March 25, Monday, March 28, Tuesday, March 29
FRESHMEN (0 – 29 earned credit hours)	Tuesday, March 29, Wednesday, March 30 Thursday, March 31

ANY CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS	Thursday, March 31 Friday, April 1
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Razzano brings new opportunity to LSC community . . .

By: Jordan Manges

Just south of China's northeastern border with Mongolia lies an area called Inner Mongolia, which is part of China. The largest industrial city in Inner Mongolia is Baotou; a twelve and a half hour train ride will get you there from Beijing. "The steel city on the grassland," Baotou is where English Department Chair Elaine Razzano, and Lyndon State College graduate Jamie Keough will find themselves in the summer and fall of this year.

For Razzano, this will be

her third extended trip to the city of Baotou. She first visited the area about 17 years ago, and from December 2003 to July 2004, Razzano was a resident of Baotou while she co-founded a program called the China-America Education Service, which teaches conversational English to those who don't speak the language.

Razzano will be returning to Baotou in June for the summer months, while Keough will arrive in September and stay on through June of 2006. Not

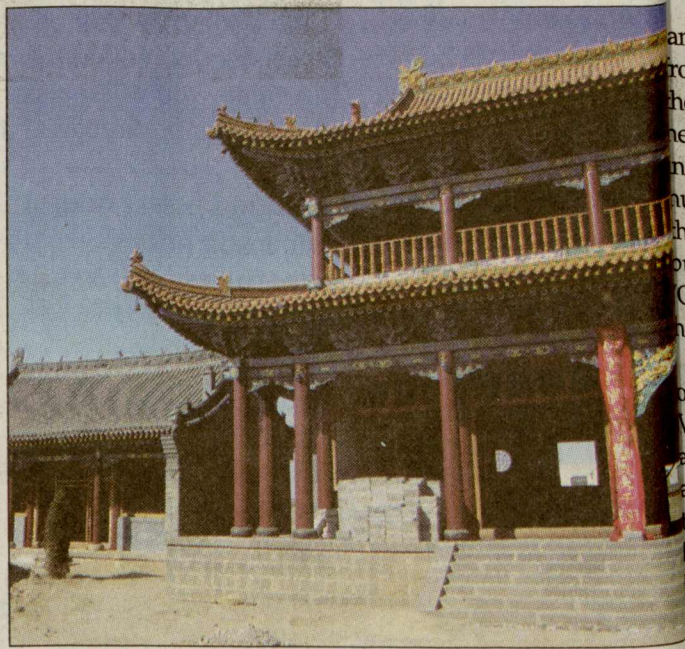
only does the China-America Education Service provide Chinese citizens with the opportunity to learn another language, it is also a wonderful opportunity for anyone in the LSC community to take advantage of. Students are invited to travel to China and teach English as a second language. For someone who is a college graduate, the option is to work for the program for six to nine months. Even if you haven't graduated, Razzano hopes to be able to bring some LSC students to Baotou for a shorter period of time, as early as the fall semester of 2005. Anyone who has an interest in teaching conversational English

and experiencing a new culture will find the program immensely rewarding, Razzano said. Students who fulfill their teaching obligation will be reimbursed for their airfare and given an apartment to live in while they teach.

Razzano is unsure of the logistics of whether how class credits would be distributed, but she is certain some sort of arrangement will be made. She stresses that students interested don't need to be in Education or English to participate.

Students interested are encouraged to contact Elaine Razzano for more information.

LEFT, ELAINE RAZZANO POSES WITH A CHINESE NATIVE DURING A RECENT TRIP TO THE COUNTRY. BELOW, THE SCHOOL WHERE LSC STUDENTS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TEACH ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE.



SC student has a strange adventure at an unusual competition

By Regina Rooney

With basketball winding down and baseball revving up, sports are on everyone's mind. However, not everyone is thinking inside the box. Some are thinking of less traditional sporting events, primarily, the 2005 World Air Hockey Championships. Held March 4-6 in at the Riviera Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, the tournament determined the world standings for air hockey, and one of Wyndon State College's own was there.

Jon Sanborn has always enjoyed playing air hockey in his free time, and when he heard about the tournament, which is open to anyone, he decided to give it a whirl. "I was just playing around online one day and came across it and thought it would be cool to do," said Jon. So, after talking to his childhood friend Nick Styger from Connecticut, the two booked flights and made plans to head west.

On Thursday, March 3, Jon landed in Vegas. The view from the air was totally unlike the small town environment he was used to. "As I'm flying into Las Vegas, it's just a huge friggen string of lights... when I see these monstrous buildings and thought, OOOOH: that's the strip," he laughed.

The strip is the main drag of big casinos and hotels in Vegas, and it holds all the glitz and glamour that people associate with the city. The two friends carried only a backpack each, and had no hotel reservations for their

first night. Instead, they strolled around the town, going from casino to casino, playing slots and taking advantage of the free drinks.

they walked back downtown, this time the five miles to the Riviera, where they scoped out their place of competition.

While many of the casinos

the town, they woke up Saturday morning and headed back to the Riviera to do what they'd come to do: play some air hockey.



They were not competing until Saturday and were free to explore the town.

"We were up and down with money, we weren't too worried about it," Jon said, adding that he hit a \$60 jackpot at one hotel.

They walked three miles down the strip before turning back, and by 5 a.m. when they arrived back at their starting point they were ready for some food. After a quick bite and a nap in McDonalds they were ready to go again, and

they'd visited were extremely posh and ritzy, the Riviera gave off a more relaxed feel. "The Riviera is not sketchy, but it's the average man's casino," Jon explained. The room they were to play in was a conference room slightly bigger than the Burke Mountain room, and in it were eight air hockey tables, an official's table, and a table for water. After checking out the scene, they left to go to their hotel and get some sleep. After another night on

Since check-out at their hotel was early, Jon and Nick were among the first to arrive. Those already there, seasoned tourney pros, were welcoming and excited to have competitors from as far away as New England. Air hockey is apparently much more popular on the West Coast than it is here.

They showed the boys the tables and urged them to play around. Jon admits he went into the competition with fair-

See Air on page 11

Tighter security for library artwork

By Jordan Manges

In December of last semester, a piece of faculty member Dorian McGowan's artwork was stolen from the library, where it had been on display for several years. Library director Garet Nelson was extremely shocked and upset by the incident, as was the whole library staff. McGowan himself, who had numerous pieces on display throughout the library for ten to fifteen years, felt it necessary to subsequently remove his remaining artwork from the library walls.

As a result of this criminal act, many

questions were raised. As far as Nelson knows, in all the years that McGowan's work has been at the library, this was the only piece to be stolen. Nelson said that every now and then something would disappear from the wall, for instance an anti-alcohol poster that had a mug of beer on it. It is distressing enough for library staff when little things like a posters on the wall are defaced or stolen, but to have someone steal artwork that was given to the library by one of our own faculty members is disrespectful and wrong on a much more serious level.

Before the artwork was stolen, almost every piece on display here at the library had a security strip on the back. Unfortunately, this one piece, McGowan's did not, quite simply because it was hanging in what we bar seem to be the safest place in the library, behind the circulation desk to the right near the computer reference section. To prevent such an incident from happening again, every piece of art that remains in the library is tagged with a security strip. Nelson confirmed that a permanent database of all artwork is in progress and will be well.

Soldier

seats for the ceremony.

Imagine having to say goodbye to someone you love, knowing you are sending them off to war, and then sitting and looking at them for 45 minutes. It was torture to see them so close, but already so far away. Congressman Bernie Sanders, Senators Pat Leahy and Jim Jeffords, and Governor Douglass all spoke, each asserting that they, the elected representatives of the men present, would make sure that they were not held overseas for any longer than they'd signed up to serve. "I wish they'd keep their politics out of it," my enraged mother muttered, wiping her eyes with trembling hands, but I understood. The speeches were not about politics and gaining votes for the next election. Rather, they were about giving support and reassuring the men deploying, most of whom had never dreamed they would be sent overseas, that

while they were gone someone was making sure that their efforts would not be taken advantage of.

As Damon marched out to the buses I saw his face clearly. He was one of the first ones to leave, and Mom and I were right up against the line of people, waving and screaming his name. He did not see us, though I saw his eyes dart everywhere looking for our faces. I thought of how Dennis had changed when he'd gone overseas, of how he'd grown tense and angry, and how he and I can't seem to get along anymore. His face used to look like Damon's, wide-eyed and open. As he marched out of the giant double doors he looked young and so, so scared; in our tight-knit family, 19 is early to head away from home for a whole 18 months, even under the best of circumstances.

After all the men were through the big hanging doors I followed my mother outside to the buses, hoping

to catch his eye one last time. "There," she exclaimed, and there he was, right in the middle bus against the window, holding up his cell phone. Mom took hers out and turned it on, and sure enough it rang. "Yeah, yeah," she said, crying and waving at the window. "I can see you. I know. I love you too. Do you want to talk to your sister?" She handed me the phone. "I can't stay out and watch the buses leave, I just can't," she said, plodding back inside.

"Hey," I said in my best cheerful tone. "Long time no see."

"Yeah, really," his tinny voice said.

"Did you see us waving?"

"No. I was looking for you."

I cleared my throat. "Well, we have to get going, but I will see you soon, ok?"

"Yeah, ok. See you soon."

With a wave and a kiss, I walked away.

People ask me, "How do you do it? How do you

cont'd from page 1

stand thinking about the being over there?" The truth is I don't really worry about Damon's safety. It is incredible that he not return us in one piece. It's absolutely not an option. What I worry about most is the inevitable changes in him, and in myself, in the next year and a half. He left at a pivotal point in life, when I will be graduating from college and moving on to places unknown. I don't know where I'll be, what will have happened to me 18 months from now. I know more than I know when he'll be in the interim. Could it be that when he comes back and we see each other again that we'll be so different, have changed so much that we'll always be far away from each other, even when in the same room? This is the one thought I can't stand, and the one that I will be fighting off until he comes home again and proves me wrong.

Air hockey

cont'd from page 9

high expectations. He is seldom beat when playing here at LSC, but since the air hockey table in the Ireland/Rogers is broken he mainly plays infrequently at the bar.

Squared off against a stranger for practice, Jon was immediately impressed by his competitor.

"It just blew my mind the way he played." He added, "It's funny because there are guys who have been playing

for 30 years fairly competitively."

Many of those more experienced came attired in knee pads and some even strapped their mallets to their hands for better control. Jon lost his first match and was placed in the loser's bracket. Then randomly he received a bye, which he explained happens when there are an odd number of competitors. Essentially, this gave him one win and so he went into the

next round. This time he was less nervous and more focused, and though he lost again the margin was smaller. Unfortunately, he could not stay for the next round of play because he had to catch a plane back to Connecticut.

The end rankings show Jon at 47th and Nick at 49th in the world. In addition, since Jon was the only one there from Vermont he is the highest officially ranked player in the state.

Though the boys did not place in the top ten, they stayed cheerful. Their opponents were outgoing and kind to them and seemed impressed with their lack of formal training, since most of them prepare for tournaments constantly.

"They were all really helpful... they were competitive but there was no trash talking going on," said Jon.

Public safety

cont'd from page 6

fairly extensive training throughout the state of Vermont. The student workers go through a training process at the beginning of each semester where they learn basic crisis response and other basic training skills.

RAs and RHDs also

receive an extensive training before each semester, preparing them to deal with any situation that may come up in the residence halls. The RAs are in charge of keeping the Residence halls safe and secure. When public safety is called in on an incident the

residential life staff and the public safety staff work closely together to insure the incident is handled correctly and efficiently in order to restore safety in the buildings.

There is always at least one public safety employee, four RAs and one

RHD on duty. Sevigny feels that we "have enough workers" and the fact that public safety works together with the Residential life staff makes Lyndon State "one of the safest campuses I have ever worked on."

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How to combat the blues and not los

By Angela DiMillo

This article is not about depression.

Depression is a serious issue, not something you can just snap out of. It requires attention, and is nothing to be ashamed of.

This is an article about the blues.

A sad feeling that may come and go in light spurts. It's the feeling that makes it a little harder to get your work done, to get up in the morning, or to get work done.

There are many things that may cause such a feeling. The brain communicates with the body through neurotransmitters.

A reduced level of these neurotransmitters is what scientifically causes the feeling of sadness.

It is when these levels are low that the body has a harder time communicating with itself, slowing down the message system until things are happening too fast for the brain to deal with. Exercise and laughter are two things that raise the neurotransmitter levels in the brain, as well as many other things.

There is always a negative feeling experienced when a person goes through loss in any form, even if it is just the loss of trust in a friendship.

When you know what is causing the feelings of sadness it is easier to go about solving the problem.

Sometimes there is

nothing you personally can do to change the situation, but there are always people to talk to.

When secrecy is an issue there are counselors in the brown house you can talk to confidentially, no matter how small the problem.

But what if you don't

know what is causing your blues? The most common cases are caused by lack of sleep.

If you feel a little down try to go to bed earlier, just sleeping longer doesn't have the same effect. The hours before midnight give you twice as much energy as the ones after.

Also, trying to get around the same every day puts your on a sleep schedule will help you go to sooner, and ready yo wake up on time the day.

Some people have reactions when they not exposed to daylight. Seasonal A Disorder, other known as SAD, causes person to have an unexplained drop in drive energy.

Treatments for include an increased exposure to certain wavelengths of light. Others just need a little more shine in their lives.

The best time to get is between 11:30 and when sunlight is strong.

Though that low feeling can not be eliminated life, being aware of your state of mind and knowing your personal reaction situations will help avoid some feelings and sadness.

If things become hard to handle or last longer than two weeks then there may be a problem.

For more information go to The National Mental Health Association website www.nmha.org, or information on depression the National Foundation Depressive Illnesses www.depression.org.



The Critic

Serving the Student Voice at Lyndon State College

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Number 8

April 12, 2005

Special Edition

Lyndon and CSC vote no confidence in Chancellor

by Rachael Morrow

The Faculty Assembly at Lyndon State College met Tuesday and voted no confidence in VSC Chancellor Robert Clarke. Lyndon State College's vote was unanimous, while Castleton State College voted overwhelmingly against the chancellor.

Chancellor Clarke said he believes the no confidence vote is entirely the result of the ongoing contract negotiations, and that it's the "faculty's way of reacting negatively."

Differences in faculty contract negotiations reach critical stage

by Nicholas R. Plante

Since 2002 employment contract negotiations between the Vermont State Colleges and the VSC faculty have been in the process of resolution. Three main issues still remain. The most talked about issue is the proposed

Many LSC faculty disagree, however, and say that the vote has nothing to do with the Union or contract negotiations.

"It's a result of an ongoing pattern of behavior. We think he's misleading the VSC system," said English Professor Buck Beliles. "He's created an adversary relationship with the faculty and staff."

Philosophy professor Heather Keith agreed. "We are concerned with his [Clarke's] ability to lead us in such a way

that is going to be sustainable for the VSC, and in such a way that contributes to what we do here – the faculty and staff interaction."

Julie Theoret, professor of mathematics, said the contract negotiations are only the "straw that broke the camel's back, but the camel has been hurting for a while. "We feel like we have no say in the decisions that are made," said Theoret.

Many faculty members
Continued on page 4

phase out of the early retirement benefit, followed by the issues of lab credit calculations and tuition waivers. The failure to resolve these issues during negotiations have brought the situation to where it is today.

One side feels the problems indicate the beginning

of the end of the VSC, while the other strongly believes their offer is "in the best interest of Vermont and Vermonters."

According to Robert Clarke, Chancellor of the VSC,
Continued on next page

Faculty Negotiation from page one

he offered to extend the existing contract for a period of time at the discretion of the VSC's faculty Federation, and he said, "They rejected it." His second offer dealt solely with the salary calculation of first time faculty that would shift some compensation from senior staff to first time faculty and he said that was also "rejected."

Ernest Broadwater, professor of education and president of VSC Faculty Federation, responded that he wasn't involved with the offers Clarke talks about, but that he has heard "similar stories" before. Broadwater also commented that, "The problems started when the negotiations started and the administration opened so many punitive articles." He estimated 26 articles were brought forth to negotiations. From the estimated 26 articles a number - around 16 were unresolved.

Clarke mentioned all the articles presented came from the recommendations of each college's Deans and President. He said, "It was the first time we had the Deans and the Presidents outline what our contract proposal should be." Carol Moore, president of LSC, refused to comment on the issues she outlined for the proposal. She said, "The chancellor has indicated he's the primary spoke person and I'll let the interview with him stand."

Vermont process dictates that a neutral third party, or "fact finder" be brought in to the process to comment and bring light to unresolved issues. "The fact finder ruled in favor of the faculty in some issues and the administration in others," said Broadwater. The third party's report then went on to the Vermont Labor Board for a ruling as described by Vermont law.

According to Clarke the Board is made up of of four members, two recommended by labor and two appointed by the Governor. Richard Moye, Assistant, professor of English explained how he felt about the process. He said, "It's not a labor board [VT Labor Board] it's an employers board."

After examining testimony from both sides the Board ruled in favor of the VSC. Clarke commented, "It was the strongest ruling in a labor board I've ever seen. They said the college's [proposal] was most reasonable and in the best public interest, and that the faculty was excessive in their demands." According to law, if the issue remains unresolved, then the Labor Board's decision goes to the Vermont legislature where they can act against the board's ruling, in favor of it or come up with their own solution. However, Clarke stated, "We deem the Labor Board finding as the final ruling. Our opinion is

the Labor Board ruling is the labor board ruling."

The faculty is putting efforts into persuading the legislature in their favor, while the VSC feels confident that Vermont Labor Board decision will stand. Clarke said, "In our understanding the labor board decision has never been overruled by the legislature."

Julie Theoret, assistant professor of mathematics at LSC recently sent a letter to Vermont Governor Douglas as well as Chancellor Clark outlining the tremendous qualities the faculty has and why they desire to retain the early retirement benefit. "What we're [Faculty] doing here is fabulous, and Chancellor Clarke wants to squash it," said Theoret.

Many faculty said that the elimination of the early retirement benefit may force existing faculty to resign or retire, and will make it harder to recruit new faculty. "Our salaries are pretty low and always have been, basically we get paid crap, and to compensate for our low salary they offered the early retirement," said Moye. He as well as others also said the benefit was a deciding factor for accepting their position at LSC. "It was something promised by a dean recruiting me when I was hired, and it was a big factor in my decision to come here," said Moye.

Clarke said, "I think the biggest challenge we have is not at people here will resign, the biggest challenge we have is recruiting new faculty." The difficulty with early retirement as it stands before this year allowed faculty to retire at half salary while still receiving full benefits at the age of 55 as long as the member had 15 years of service. The VSC feels the current retirement program is excessive in not in the interest of the VSC. Their offer is to eliminate the benefit after 1 Oct 2009.

According to Clarke he placed a final offer after the labor board's decision changing the early retirement age to 58 with 10 years of service, all tenure faculty would keep the existing retirement, and non tenured faculty would be eligible for full medical benefits at age 55 with 10 years of service. He stated the faculty rejected the offer and his superiors redrew his negotiations to show from him. When Broadwater was questioned why the faculty rejected this offer he stated that it imposed on the benefits of faculty already eligible for the old plan, and that it "wasn't right to penalize those in the pipeline who were eligible to take the old plan."

Moye said, "I'm mad because the Chancellor is determined to take away a benefit I was promised when I came here." Theoret agreed. If he gets his way I will still be paying into a benefit I will not see," she said. Clarke countered, by saying, "This is a very expensive

benefit. It costs \$1.3 million this past year and more next year. In comparison, the faculty's total salary throughout the VSC is 11 million dollars and the early retirement benefit represents an amount equal to 11 percent of that."

The negotiations also involved the issue of unequal pay for lab credits throughout the VSC. LSC and Vermont Technical College receive lower pay for labs taught at their schools than professors teaching labs at Johnson State and Castleton State Colleges. The fact finder ruled in favor of increase compensation across the board, while the labor board ruled in favor of the VSC. Clarke said, "The fact finder found in favor of the faculty, but failed to figure in costs.. The faculty's recommendation would have cost the system an extreme amount of money and would have bankrupted the VTC." Carol Moore, president of LSC said, "The way we deal with lab credits here is keeping with national norms, and as a science teacher myself I'm fairly familiar with these." On the other side, the Faculty Federation is in favor of, "Equal pay for equal work," meaning they believe all faculty should be paid fair wages if they are teaching equivalent labs.

The last unresolved issue deals with the benefit of tuition waivers. Dependents of faculty as well as the dependents of other employees of the VSC system can attend classes at any VSC institution as well as UVM free

of tuition charges. The faculty claims they pay more into the benefit than what is paid out in such waivers, and they feel the surplus could go towards their salary. "We look at it as money being taken away from us could be used towards the salaries of faculty," said Broadwater. "We would like to pay for only the waivers we use and pay for them at the VSC rate."

As the opposite sides wait for the final ruling or outcome both look back at the process with concern. The administration and the faculty defend their actions in the process. Chancellor Clarke said, "Once negotiations were initiated we wanted to make sure we did what is in the best interest for our students. Our mission statement reads for the benefit of Vermont and Vermonters." Clarke defended his actions by citing changing times requiring changes in the contracts. He mentioned how the situation has changed since the 70s when the benefits were introduced in the contract. He also commented on statements he has heard, he said, "The comment 'Promises made, promises broken,' outlines why there are negotiations, everything is on the table."

The Faculty Federation chairs as well as general faculty employed at LSC have their own opinions. Tim Sturm, professor of special education, and LSC's chapter chair of the VSC Faculty Federation said, "I've never had this kind of experience. Money is

Faculty Negotiations from page 3

always an issue, and we understand sacrifices have to be made, but in the past, administration has shown more compassion. In these negotiations they have been bold, and they've been out for blood." He also stated his opinion that the administration is pushing hard to possibly reduce fulltime faculty and to increase part time faculty to save money.

Theoret said, "I don't know if I want to work here anymore. I would seriously consider working some where else and a lot of other faculty would too." Clarke responded, "I can't predict the future but we've had relatively low turn over of our faculty in total. President

Moore added, "We'll fill any vacancies that we need to fill."

Professor Moyer stated, "This is not a job this is a vocation. The Chancellor's attitude toward the faculty is incredibly damaging not only to the VSC but to education. He has no business being the Chancellor of an educational institution, and the damage can't be undone until we get rid of him."

The faculty also said they're unappreciated and the work they do is taken for granted. The chancellor responded, "The work week wasn't part of the negotiations but to be fair the faculty are only required to work two 14 week semesters and not many employees have that luxury. We

have faculty who work 80 hours a week and some who work a lot less. But they're only required to be there two 14 week semesters. Moyer stated, "He [Clarke] seems to think we work 12 hours a week and if that were the case I would be teaching without preparing. I can bull shit with the best of them. If there's no reason for me to value what I do because the Chancellor and the institution don't value it I'm just going to stop working so hard. I'll take the extra 30 to 40 hours of my time and commit it to finding a job I feel good about."

Sturm added, "Faculty from both ends, young and older are feeling like it's getting to be stressful around here."

No confidence vote from page one

are also concerned with Clarke's view on finances.

The VSC tuition has been raised in past years, but the new contract for faculty faces cuts in health care benefits and retirement packages.

Theoret and others said many departments are having problems hiring full-time faculty members because of low salary and the benefit package. As a result, large numbers of part-time faculty have been hired.

Theoret said that a college needs to have a substantial number of full-time faculty, especially as enrollment increases, and that the

Chancellor's actions do not indicate he values full-time faculty. "His only argument is financial cost, and that can't be the only thing considered," said Theoret.

"He looks at faculty, and all he sees is an expense, a cost," said Beliles, who believes that faculty should instead be seen as an asset.

The Chancellor disagrees. "We're trying to make our stock colleges remain open to students," said Clarke. "We're trying to keep tuition down."

The movement toward the no confidence vote began roughly two or three weeks ago.

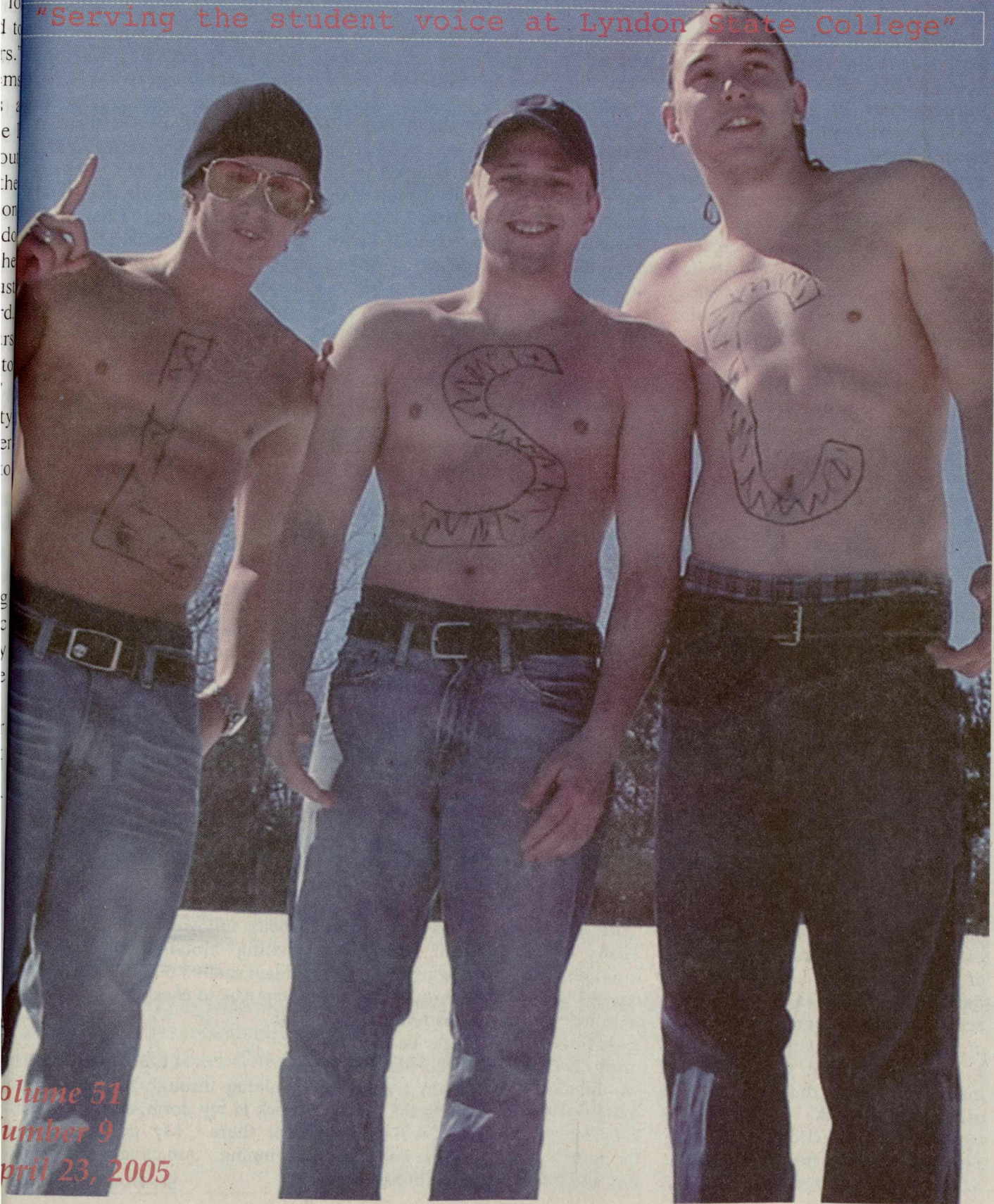
Beliles hopes it will bring about "a change in the basic atmosphere, a change in the way the central office has done business."

Others hope to have their voices heard. "[We hoped] to get the Chancellor's and the trustees' attention. The heart and soul of the VSC is faculty," said Keith.

Clarke has been Chancellor of the VSC college system since November of 1999. Before that he was President of the Vermont Technical College. Clarke has said that he "plans to continue serving the VSC students."

The Critic

"Serving the student voice at Lyndon State College"



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Diabetes sucks

By Jordan Manges

I was a nineteen year old freshman in college when I found myself sitting alone in one of the stark white rooms of Burlington's Fletcher Allen Hospital. Even though it was roughly seven years ago, I can play back for myself the events that happened in that hospital room like they were scenes on a DVD. I sat wringing my hands and picking at my fingers until there was a quick knock on the door. I raised my gaze from my twitching hands to the face of a stout Mexican man as he shut the door behind him. Before I could even say hello, he grabbed a stool, sat directly in front of me, looked me straight in the eyes and said: "Diabetes sucks". Dr. Jorge Cias was his name, and he didn't walk into that hospital room to simply tell me that diabetes sucks, he came to tell me that I had been diagnosed with type 1 diabetes.

As of 2002, I am one of 18.2 million people in the United States who have diabetes, that's 6.3% of the population. Interestingly though, out of that 18.2 million, 13 million are actually diagnosed, and 5.2 million people are undiagnosed, walking around unaware that they even have the disease.

After hearing the formal words "You have diabetes", a flood of questions washed through my head. The shock of hearing this news hadn't even begun to set in yet. I just wanted to know why and how, and most importantly, what exactly is diabetes?

Diabetes is actually a group of diseases characterized by high levels of blood glucose resulting from defects in insulin production, insulin action, or both. There are two types of diabetes, type 1 and type 2. Type 1 diabetes is often referred to as insulin-dependent diabetes, or juvenile-onset diabetes. It is currently treated with injections of insulin doses via a needle or insulin pump attached to the body.

In type 1 diabetes, the pancreas doesn't want to produce insulin, which is necessary for the body to be able to use sugar. Sugar is kind of like the "gas" for the cells within the body, and in order for the sugar to get from the blood into the cells, insulin is needed.

Type 2 diabetes is referred to as non-insulin-dependent diabetes, or adult onset diabetes. Type 2 diabetes in some cases can be controlled with a careful diet and exercise, as well as oral medication.

Since I have type 1, I am one of the "lucky" ones who gets to stick a needle in their arm, stomach, or leg up to three times a day to inject the insulin that my pancreas no longer wants to produce.

So how was it that I came to find myself in that hospital room anyway? Exactly one day before I was formally introduced to the disease, I had for probably the sixth or seventh night in a row, the worst and most unfulfilling night of sleep ever. Everyday my body was being taken over by the evil cravings to eat and drink anything saturated with simple sugars. You know how it is when you feel that your life just cannot go on until you consume some Ben & Jerry's ice cream ASAP? Well that's how I felt, only not just every once in awhile. I was feeling this desperate all the time. In the evening and before bed, the amount of sugar I had consumed throughout the day had completely dehydrated me, so I would then crave water and drink at least two water bottles before bed. That's where the unfit sleep came into play. All the water I drank before bed would go through me like wildfire. A trip to the bathroom at least three times a night became the norm, because after the first trip, I would feel thirsty again and down more water, thus making the process keep repeating itself. I woke up for the fourth and final time one morning, and finally a big red buzzer went

off in front of my eyes, interrupting the 8 a.m glare of sunlight bearing on my face. Not only was my alarm clock going off, but I was now aware that this was just not normal. Sure, it's great to drink a lot of water, but my cravings were simply out of control. A call to the UVM Health Center explaining my plight got me an appointment with them first thing the next morning. I had to be prepared to do a "fasting blood-glucose test," whatever that meant. The instructions were to not eat or drink anything but water after 8 p.m.

Another sleepless night ensued, and the next morning me and my rumbling stomach stumbled into the Health Center. A nurse sat down, pricked my finger and, of course, I had to pee in a cup. Little did I know that the unpleasant act of pricking my finger was about to become part of my daily routine in everyday life. Within five minutes the results of my fasting blood-glucose test were in. My blood-sugar level was somewhere in the 800 level. A normal fasting blood-sugar level would be between 60-100. People that have diabetes within a good level of control can keep theirs within the range of 70-120. Clearly I had a problem. For the first time in my life I heard the words you and diabetes used in the same sentence, and that sentence was directed at me. My symptoms of intense thirst and hunger for all things sweet and unhealthy, as well as the frequent water drinking and trips to the bathroom, followed by my skyrocketing fasting blood-sugar level, pretty much spelled out diabetes. The next step was to check me into the hospital.

I don't really remember walking through the UVM campus back to my dorm, all I know is that I got there. My mind was simply spinning. Amazingly though, I did

See DIABETES on page 11

Gold Fuel

It seems like every time we go to the pump to fill up our gas tanks, the price of gas has risen 20 cents. People gripe about it, the seven o'clock news covers it, and newspapers write about it. The price of gas is a very popular subject, and always has been.

The British have been paying at least five dollars a gallon for years now, which is why most of them drive smaller cars, like the way cool mini-cooper.

Americans, on the other hand, tend to go for large SUVs and trucks because they have the high safety rating and power needed to run to the mall, or to haul your groceries back from the supermarket. They also have large gas tanks. Some are paying \$45-60 bucks to fill up their tank.

With the price of gas rising, more people are picking up on the hybrid trend. In fact, some secondhand hybrids are selling for more than brand new ones. Perhaps this is why Ford decided to hop on the hybrid bandwagon, and tried to bring the best of both worlds together: a hybrid SUV. Yes ladies and gentlemen, now you can cruise with the best of them in your new hybrid Ford Escape, all the while saving on gas.

It's good that the hybrid trend is catching on, since fuel is a limited resource and pollution is evil. It's bad that it took rising gas prices to push us in that direction.

A little while ago, we were asking ourselves "How low can the stock market go?" Now we're asking "How high will the gas prices climb?"

As we cruise toward the summer season, reputed to be the time when tourists take to the road, spend their money and give the economy a nice boost, gas prices continue to reach for the sky. Is there some sort of conspiracy theory behind it all, where the government is allowing the prices to climb because they seek to sway public opinion over drilling in the Alaskan Wildlife Preserve? Are they trying to see how high the prices can go before the populace takes to the streets in an all out riot? Or did they simply forget to plan ahead, leaving a burgeoning economy, reportedly struggling since the traumatic 9/11, to struggle along on its own?

AIM...

By Angela DiMillo

If you are an on campus student at Lyndon State College you have AOL Instant Messenger. The life of a IMer is full of never ending web surfing, where all you can do to keep your sanity is pass digital notes and links to the people on your buddy list. The phone has become obsolete because now there is no reason to waste time finding the number, dialing, then going to the trouble of saying "Would you like to go to dinner?" when you can just type, "dinner?"

Talking to a love interest is no longer a problem when

the Cyrano de Bergerac of the IM can type all the words she wants to hear for you. Breaking up has never been easier when a break-up is just a few typed words and a click away. If you don't want to have to talk through any amount of IM conflict you can block the the people causing the problem so you never have to talk to them again.

The backlash between the realm of RL (real life) and RL on IM is blurrier than a counterstriker's eyes after a 12 hour kill fest. But users be warned, using IM is the easiest way to manipulate and be manipulated.

With passwords automatically saved anyone can sign on to your account and say whatever they want to your closest friends. It's also hard to make your friends LOL (laugh out loud) after they've been told by your screen name to STFU (shut the...well you know the rest). But if you promise to BRB (be right back) whenever you leave someone alone on your computer, and say I'M SORRY :(, then maybe your friends will forgive you, enabling you to continue your instant, simulated, human interaction.

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Afghani Ambassador Visits LSC

By Regina Rooney

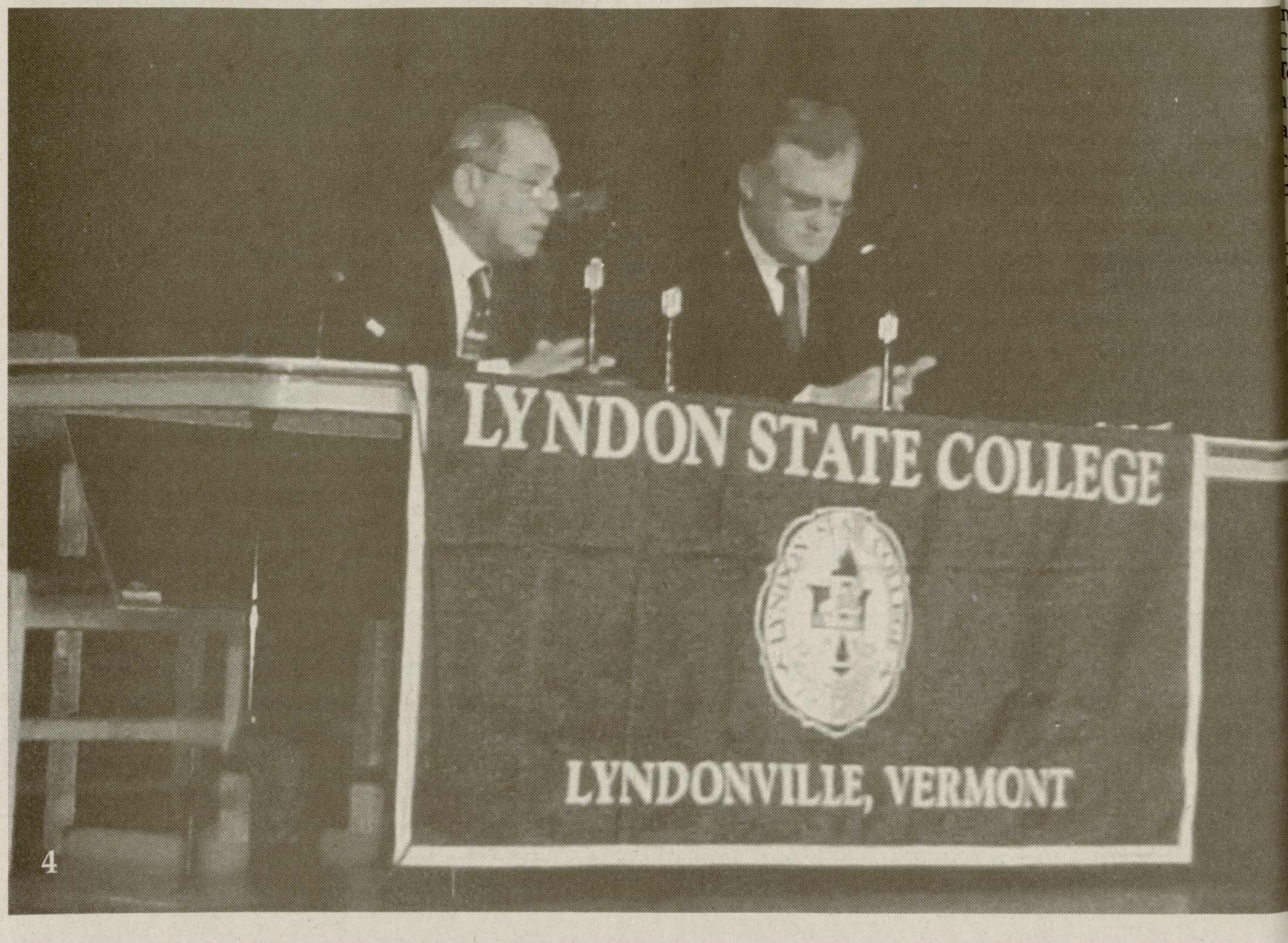
On Thursday, April 14, Lyndon State College hosted His Excellency, Ambassador Dr. Ravan Farhadi, the United Nations Ambassador from Afghanistan. He gave a lecture and answered questions from students and faculty alike on a range of subjects. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Alexandre Strokanov, Associate Professor of History at LSC, and a personal friend of the ambassador.

Dr. Farhadi launched his talk with a brief history of his country, starting with British colonialism in the nineteenth century. The nation's past is intricately linked to its neighboring countries, and, more recently, to the United States. He explained that the United States provided funding for a Pakistani agency called Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), which in turn was responsible for forming the Taliban. "The Taliban was a creation of ISI...This is the reality," he said. He also stressed that the Taliban never ruled the entire country; rather, they controlled the city of Kabul from 1996 until 2001. The western world never recognized the Taliban as a ruling government, and despite efforts to the contrary they never gained entry into the U.N., a fact which

Dr. Strokanov attributed greatly to Dr. Farhadi. "Taliban controls capitol but Taliban does not represent Afghan people," the professor explained.

After September 11, 2001, the United States asked Afghanistan's help in fighting the Taliban and al Qaeda. However, the ambassador pointed out, "We've been asking this since five years and you don't listen to us." He stressed that there were no American GIs in Kabul when the U.S. Air Force. He ended his lecture by taking questions from the audience. Topics ranged from the place of women in Afghanistan's future to Osama bin Ladin to the ambassador's job description.

The presentation was a part of an initiative within the young Global Studies major to help students experience other cultures on a first-hand basis; the major also takes trips overseas. Since the program began, LSC has hosted U.N. ambassadors from Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, and hopes to bring the Iraqi ambassador.



C Catholics and non-catholics alike look to papal succession

li. "e-
esent

By Regina Rooney
In November, 1966, the
a population was
locked when Notre
me des Victoires
s." Catholic Church in St.
whensbury went up in
elp fr
mes. The church, built
1887, was a dominating
ature of the local land-
ape; its steeple, built on
ong granite walls and
opped by a copper and
hin old cross, rose 198 feet in
erie air, the highest tower
o tal town. As it burned, the
hos flames could be seen from
n, a
n, a
result of arson, shook the
own to its core, leading to
ignificant modifications
n the structure of the local
Catholic community.
Today, Catholics here and
around the world are
again facing a major
change, as the Vatican pre-
pares to elect a new pope.

Pope John Paul II died
on April 2 at the age of 84.
He led the Roman Catholic
Church for 26 years, and
was the only pope that our
generation had ever
known. When the pon-
tiff dies, a specific protocol
is followed to elect the
next leader of the Church.
No fewer than two weeks,
but no more than 20 days
after his death, the
Cardinals, the most pow-
erful men in the Church
beside the pope, meet to
choose a successor. No
more than 120 Cardinals
under the age of 80 may
vote, and any baptized
Roman Catholic male is
eligible for the position.
The men take a vow of
secrecy and go into seclu-



sion in the Vatican, where
every day up to four bal-
lots are cast. An individ-
ual must receive a 2/3
majority to become the
pope. If after 12 days a
2/3 majority has not been
achieved a pope may be
selected by simple majori-
ty. After each round of
voting, the ballots are
burned; black smoke sig-
nals to the world that a
decision has not been
reached, and white smoke
means that a successor has
been chosen and he has
accepted the role.

John Paul II left some
big shoes to fill; some even
believe him to be deserv-
ing of sainthood. He was
involved in world politics,
and is credited by many
for helping end commu-
nism in Eastern Europe
and the Soviet Union. He
also acknowledged past
persecutions carried out
by the Church and pub-

licly asked God's forgive-
ness for these acts, espe-
cially for those carried out
against the Jewish people.
In 1992 he spearheaded a
revision of the Catechism
of the Catholic Church, the
"rule book" that contains
all Church teachings; it
was the first such revision
in 462 years, and
addressed many modern
issues previously excluded
from the text. John Paul,
known for his moral con-
servatism, stood by and
reinforced traditional
Catholic teachings against
homosexuality, abortion,
sex outside of marriage,
female priests, and many
other issues.

Here at Lyndon State,
there are a variety of reac-
tions to the Pope's death
and to what type of succe-
sor would be best. Some
students confessed to
being uninformed about
the issues surrounding

papal succession. Others
had clear opinions.

Mattia Marro, a fresh-
man who comes from a
Catholic and Jewish back-
ground, said she appreci-
ates John Paul's efforts to
reach out to those of other
faiths and hopes his suc-
cessor continues them.
"This last pope was really
good to the Jewish com-
munity and I would hope
this pope would be as
good," she said.

Mike Laperle, a
Catholic student, also felt
that the late pope's exam-
ple was a good one, and
should be followed, espe-
cially when concerning
moral issues. "I hope for
a pope that would have
similar outlooks [as John
Paul II]... I just don't want
to see the Church fall into
the same things that the
world's fallen into."

Rene Cusson, also a
Catholic, agreed. "I don't
think any changes should
be made. I think John
Paul did a great job, stick
with it."

Ben Blackmon, an
agnostic, expressed his
concern about these mat-
ters. "The world isn't in
the Renaissance or the
Dark Ages anymore...I
don't see any reason why
church dogma and reality
can't merge... You've got
to be realistic, you can't
just live in a book," said
Blackmon.

There are as many polit-
ical issues as moral ones
surrounding this choice.
John Paul II, born in
Poland, was the first
non-Italian pope in

Smokey Bear puts out the relationship fire

By Hannah Fadden

When I first thought about writing this article I had the entire concept planned in my head. It would be a sort of rebuttal, an "in your face" article. The story line would be based on my personal life, but inspired by an article I read in Glamour, A.K.A. the Women's Bible. The writer, Jake, has been writing for Glamour magazine since I was a senior in High School. It was only recently that he wrote an intriguing editorial that seemed to do more than get my attention. It was nothing like his past stories, which documented his most intense relationships, sexual escapades, one night stands, and nights of lonely Friday single-hood.

For the past 16 months he has been writing about his longest monogamous relationship, only suddenly it all changed. He was ending this lack luster, extravaganza he had had with Orange Blossom, the name of his most recent year and a half journey. Suddenly the longevity of this relationship lacked the spark it had started with. The romance had gone out the door and Jake was standing outside, left with his most recent article, Breaking up: a guy's view.

The second he approached his girlfriend, she knew, she knew exactly what was coming. As he put it, "...a woman can spot your breakup face from a mile away." How true such a statement is. Because before Smokey Bear* and I broke up, I could tell it was coming. No more hugs, kisses, and worst of all the sex had nearly ceased to exist. The second a man doesn't want sex, the relationship is over. This is only partially why I decided to write this article, to perhaps better understand what I was going through and see if there was a light at the end of the never-ending tunnel.

However, after about an hour this entire momentum I had started out with for writing this piece diminished. My thoughts suddenly escaped my mind just as fast as I could think of them. Oddly enough, believing it would help the situation, I went to my ex's and got a hat that seemed to depict our relationship, lost. As I walked into his empty home, I was confronted by tons of gifts and cards. His Aunt and Uncle's Anniversary, something I remembered but chose to forget about; I was nursing jealousy. How could they make it work, but Smokey Bear and I were nothing more than a failure? Why did we have to be split up, and suddenly the family was divided between the two of us? As Smokey Bear and my relationship went down the drain, my relationship with all of his family did too. He won, and I lost all the people I considered friends

6 before we ever began dating. But that is an entire

story in itself.

Taking the hat I ran out the door before I was caught stealing a possession which had seemed to go back and forth between us. It was another object that had been lost in the custody battle we endured. Instant inspiration hit me, sort of smacking me in the face where this was going to lead. Reflecting on the past few weeks, let alone days, I had tons of places to begin and only one ending to reach. I jumped in my car and sped home, knowing exactly which direction I was going to go.

All right, I know I had lost my mind along the way; he could have my sanity, because one thing he wasn't able to take away from me, our emails. Desperately seeking the affection and attention I knew he once held for me, I decided

to take a stroll down memory lane and read them.

Idiotic me, I tortured myself with these mundane letters. Re-reading all the love notes he had ever sent to me, I was left confused. He seemed in love, infatuated, happy, everything he no longer was. I was left feeling horrible, humbled and

worse, even more in love. How could someone fall out of love so quickly? What had I done to repulse him in such a short period of time?

Then it dawned on me, I had done the same thing to my ex before Smokey Bear, to Fly Boy*. He and I had been dating for over two and a half years, and one day as if I woke up from a coma, I realized I wasn't in love anymore. Perhaps it was the endorphins, momentum or desire that wears out, but either way I should understand what Smokey Bear was experiencing. I have to shake my head because I don't and I won't understand what he is going through, at least not right now.

As I look at the Bud Light hat's reflection in the mirror, I am left wondering why this hat seemed to be loved so much more than me. With its faded blue cloth and dirty white mesh, this piece of material received more affection than I ever would. It was constantly being worn by Smokey Bear or me. It was as if it was our object, even though I knew it was his.

Then again, maybe it was karma that bit me in the rump. Now isn't it ironic how fate can work against us, so quickly? In a matter of a breath, it took his hand away from my hand, his cheeky smile from my sight, his six-foot something body from beside mine and replaced it with nothing. The pictures we had of each other seemed foolish to hold onto, but too hard to destroy. Everything he gave me

See SMOKEY on page 7

LSC adult learners recognized

By: Jordan Manges

About fifty people gathered in the Burke Mountain Room on March 10 to recognize the outstanding Adult Learners of Lyndon State College. In conjunction with this event, many of those students were also inducted into the Alpha Sigma Lambda National Honor Society. In all a total of twelve students received an Adult Learner Award, and sixteen students were inducted into Alpha Sigma Lambda. Jeremy White, president of Alpha Lambda welcomed the honorees and guests. President Carol Moore and faculty members Allen Yale, and Linda Wacholder, also gave speeches honoring the efforts and achievements of the adult learners.

Adult learners tend to also be non-traditional students, which is anyone over the age of 22 and living off-campus. The adult learners of the LSC community usually have a considerable amount of responsibilities to juggle as they pursue a college degree. Many of the honorees at the ceremony have children, full-time jobs, and personal businesses to tend to along with a full course load at LSC, making them ripe for recognition and deserving many congratulations.

2005 Adult Learner Award

- Annette Benson
- Carolyn Brown
- Angela Calkins
- Leslie Charrington
- Kelly Colby
- Michelle Englemann
- Naomi Gallagher
- Jennifer Hayes
- Holly Hartwell
- Cynthia Jordan
- David Legacy
- Linda Sherman

Alpha Sigma Lambda Inductees

- Annette Benson

- Katherine Bleau
- Angela Calkins
- Chrystal Chase
- Leslie Charrington
- Mark Coran
- Emily Cummings
- Michelle Englemann
- Sarah Friend
- Naomi Gallagher
- Carolyn Greaves
- Tristan Hardy
- Lindsey Lefebvre
- Linda Sherman
- Marshall Stoner
- Chris Thibaudeau

Marilyn Pastore joins LSC board of visitors

LYNDON CENTER, VT. – Marilyn Pastore of East Burke and Winchester, Mass., owner of the Inn at Mountain View in East Burke, is the newest member of the Lyndon State College Board of Visitors. She attended her first meeting this spring.

Pastore became owner of the inn in 1989, when she and her husband were looking in the area for a second home, and they ended up owning the former Darion Inn and 62 acres that previously had been part of the Darling farms. Pastore saw restoring and converting the buildings and barns to commercial use as a way to preserve their historic value while adding to the local economy. She also worked hard with a group of local enthusiasts to create Kingdom Trails, a four-season trail that attracts many to the area.

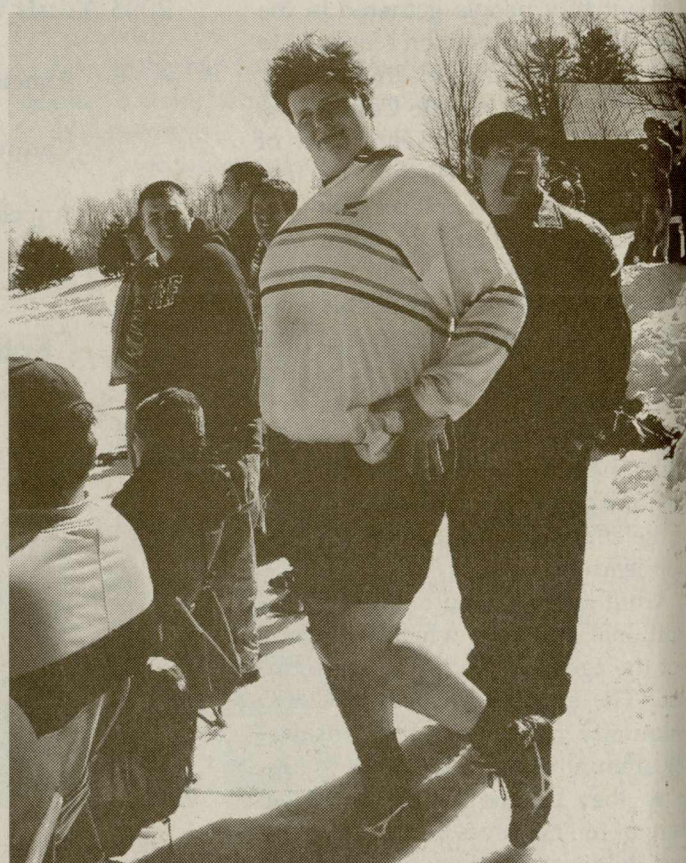
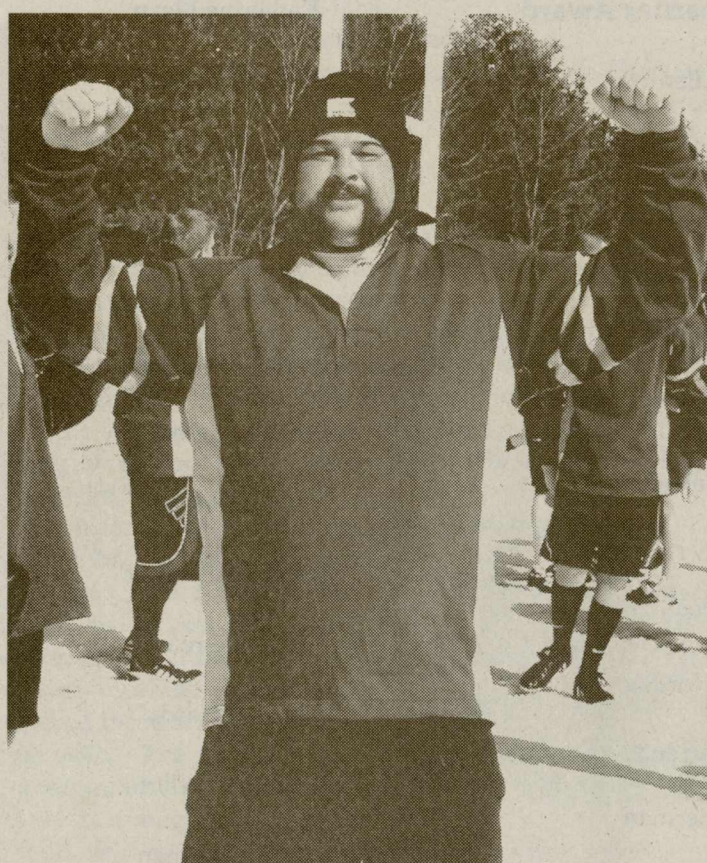
LSC Professor John DeLeo and GPS students from his classes helped with the mapping of Kingdom Trails.

“We’ve always had a relationship with the college,” Pastore said.

Pastore is a former state vice president for New England Inns and Resorts and has just finished a five-year term as chair of the Advisory Council for University Libraries of Notre Dame. She remains a council member.

The Lyndon State College Board of Visitors is a group of volunteers who represent the College in their respective communities and act in advocacy, advisory and other leadership roles. The board was established in 2000 and meets twice annually at Lyndon State.

Time to get rough at Snowbowl '05



LI road crossing deemed hazardous by police chief

By Regina Rooney

Every day the steady flow of traffic on College Hill is slowed to a crawl while Lyndon Institute students cross the road in droves.

As LI has grown, more and more students travel to other buildings for classes, causing the traffic jams so many LSC students and faculty deal with on their way to and from campus. The primary problem spot is the crosswalk next to the main building, just below Fenton Chester Arena. Many LSC students cite the crossing as annoying; in order to reach their classes on time, they have to plan their schedules around the high school. Others point out that there is a safety issue at hand.

"There's always a risk where students are crossing a public road," said LI Headmaster Rick Hilton.

In order to curtail that risk, LI makes sure a crossing guard is present at the highest traffic time, which Hilton said was in the morning before first period. However, Hilton said the high school doesn't have the staff to have a crossing guard there all the time. The headmaster said he feels that motorists are generally respectful of the situation and careful to obey the traffic laws. "It's more of an inconvenience than a hazard," he said.

Lyndonville Police Chief Jack Harris disagreed.

"I look at it as a safety issue," he said. Harris gets reports "daily" about the crossing; many concern



Traffic is backed up at the intersection on College Hill Near the Lyndon Institute campus.

high school students simply running out in front of cars without stopping or looking first. He stressed that the legal way to use a crosswalk is to stop at the edge, then cross the road, but said that many of the high school students don't follow the rules.

"It's up to the people to use proper crossing techniques," he said, adding that if an accident occurred because the techniques were

not used, it would be the crosser's fault, not the driver's. He recognized the limitations of the LI staff and their resources, but said he feels a crossing guard should be present at all of the busy times throughout the day. This would allow for increased safety and for a smoother flow of traffic as cars and students were allowed to move in turn. He reported that he has

even been held up at the crosswalk on his way to an accident with his lights flashing and his siren wailing.

Harris hopes for an improvement in what is certainly a problem affecting many. He says it is an issue that the school and the students need to work together on. "It's part of being a good neighbor for the community," he said. **9**

Student-run storm conference celebrates 30th year

By Regina Rooney

Thirty years ago, about fifty students and meteorologists gathered on the Lyndon State College campus to discuss and analyze past snow storms. This was the birth of the Northeastern Storm Conference (NESC), which today has grown to the largest student-run meteorological conference in the country. Held this year, on March 18th-20th, at the Sheraton Burlington Hotel in Burlington, Vermont, it is organized annually by LSC's chapter of the American Meteorological Society and the National Weather Association (AMS & NWA). This was the first year the conference has been held in Burlington; with a turnout the past two years

of over 230 people, it has outgrown its old site in Saratoga Springs, NY, just as years ago it outgrew the LSC campus.

The conference offers attendees, which include college and high school students as well as professionals, the opportunity to attend workshops and hear speakers from different sectors of the field. This year's keynote speakers included Jim Cantore and Paul Kocin, both meteorologists for The Weather Channel, as well as Bill Chittick, author of "The Worcester Tornado, June 9, 1953." It drew students, television meteorologists, members of the National Weather Service, alumni, and more, from as far away as Colorado and Montana.

While it is a professional

conference, the NESC is a special opportunity for students. Many of the talks are geared towards broadening students' horizons within the discipline and introducing them to new opportunities. It offers a chance to network and make connections with professionals. The conference also features a panel discussion with experts from all areas of the field, giving undergrads an idea of the career options they have before them.

Organizing an event of this scale is not easy.

"It's hard and it's very time consuming...it can be very stressful and strenuous," said Brian Mellor, LSC-AMS & NWA treasurer.

It takes the efforts of a lot of people to make the NESC a success. LSC's

chapter of the AMS & NWA boasts an impressive 83 active members, and all had some role to perform. Besides fundraising, members were responsible for arranging for rooms and food, booking speakers, acquiring and organizing conference gifts like pens and tee-shirts, registering guests and checking them in, and dealing with problems as they came up. Though this seems daunting, the AMS-NWA is encouraged by the positive feedback they have received, and have no intentions of stopping at the 30 year mark.

"It's been equated to the national conference in its quality...Next year we hope to make it bigger," said Mellor.

LSC loses Fitch to retirement

By Nicholas R. Plante

Jon Fitch, Professor of Psychology at Lyndon State College, will retire at the end of this semester. Fitch shared his plans for the future as well as memories of his career.

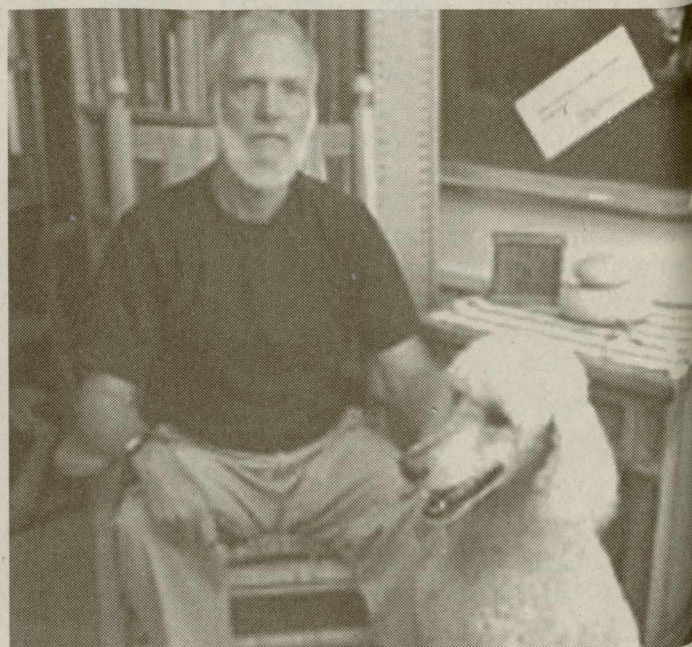
"Yes, it says retiring but that's not really what I'm doing," said Fitch, "I'm changing, transitioning, moving on, adding another chapter."

Fitch sees his retirement as a change in applications rather than throwing in the towel. He mentioned John Dewey's quote, "Education

isn't a preparation for life. Education is life." Fitch applied Dewey's thought to describe himself by adding, "Fitch loves education, therefore Fitch loves life."

Fitch plans to practice carpentry and other hands on jobs during his "transition." He describes the change from focusing on tasks dependent on "fine motor skills" to those dependent on "gross motor skills." He stated that his new challenge in carpentry will have specific results that are definable which dif-

See FITCH on page 11



LSC Ghost Stories

By Nicole Miner

Every campus has stories of ghosts and goblins, and through the years they get more extravagant and students thrive on the stories for entertainment.

Wheelock Residence Hall and the T.N Vail center are just a few places that are reportedly inhabited by ghosts.

In the 2002/2003 school year a group of five students took a Ouija Board to the theater. After playing for about five minutes, the spot light on the other side of the stage turned on and the stage started to squeak as though someone was walking on it, yet the students could see no one. The theater got really cold and the trap door on the stage started to squeak and the group decided to leave the theater at a sprint with the Ouija Board tucked between their knees.

Emma Vail supposedly

haunts not only the theater, but all of the Vail building. A teacher was working late one night, despite warnings from her co-workers that staying after midnight was not a good idea. After midnight the teacher started to hear a very faint noise. Over time it got louder and louder. It was the sound of wheels, wheels on a wheelchair.

Emma Vail, the wife of T.N Vail, was in a wheelchair. Her wheelchair is kept in the Vail Museum near the public safety office. On several occasions this wheelchair was found in the theater lobby and in the library, quite a distance from the Vail Museum, which is always locked.

Not only was the wheelchair found in the library, but many other mysterious things have happened there. Each night Public Safety checks the library, walking through each floor and

checking that all the lights are off and all the doors are locked. More than one Public Safety employee has reported that on the second and third floors of the library, after 2 a.m., it is not uncommon for books to randomly fall off the shelves.

The library and Vail are not places we often frequent late at night, so some of these stories may not affect people the way the next few may. The residence halls here on campus have been around for quite some time, and many mysterious and dark happening have occurred in these buildings.

The fourth floor of Wheelock is the most popular for ghost stories. In Wheelock 444 a student hung herself from the pipe that runs across the ceiling. If you pull yourself up on this pipe you can see the marks from the rope. Students have claimed to see her ghost staring down

at them when they are in bed. She is also said to roam the fourth floor. Another girl is said to have hung herself in the basement of Wheelock, and late at night people have reported haring footsteps.

There are many rooms in Stonehenge that are inhabited by ghosts. A ghost by the name of Beth lives on the second floor of Whitelaw, and a ghost names Lars also lives on the second floor of Whitelaw.

These ghost stories are a part of the College's culture and have been passed down through the years and will continued to be passed on. The stories in this article are just a few that are told on campus and have no proof of being real. A student really did hang herself in Wheelock, but that is the only true fact that is known on any of these cases.

Fitch

fers to being a teacher where results and effects are hard to define in every student.

Another area of change he will experience, he said deals with control.

"I'm going from an external locus of control, meaning working on someone else's schedule, to an internal locus of control, meaning working at my own pace. "The college has changed significantly over the years and it has always offered professional challenges that have kept me

busy and involved," Fitch said.

Fitch has created or helped organize programs that have changed the way LSC educates. Fitch and another professor organized a class 25 years ago called Death and Dying, which is still taught today. Eighteen years ago he started the New England School Counseling Practitioner Institute, which is a one week professional development graduate study course, for school counselors.

Fitch stated his "most significant" work dealt with LSC's general education program. He said his work along with the other members of the GEU committee "Allows people to be generally educated; they're exposed to the key issues: the sciences, humanities, and the arts." He said LSC has come a long way and will continue facing the challenge long after he is gone.

Fitch pursued employment at LSC because he had

a federal fellowship and his mentor, who was teaching at LSC at the time, informed him of an opening. "I showed up, interviewed and was hired," said Fitch. He has taught at LSC since 1974 with a two and a half year leave of absence during the 80s. "I came here for a thirst for knowledge and that will not change in retirement," Fitch said.

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“One stop shop” for registrar and business

By Nicholas R. Plante

Lyndon State College students may soon see integration of the business, financial aid, and registrar's offices in a “one stop shop” format.

“The new ‘one stop shop’ will hopefully improve the customer's needs,” said Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administration.

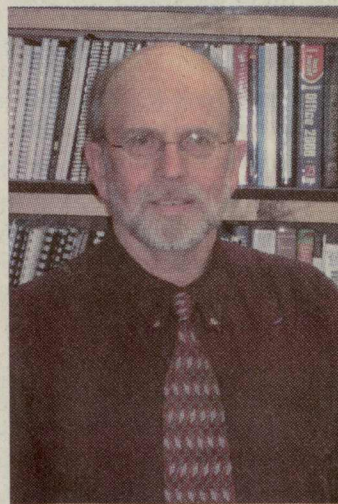
It will consolidate the offices of financial aid, the business center, and registrar into one central location, so students can be readily helped and better informed. The employees in the new office will be trained to deal with all

aspects of the consolidated operations, which means the first service provider contacted by the student should be able to assist the student in all three areas of billing, financial aid, and registration. This should reduce confusion and frustration.

“We know the current layout is not a good situation and confidentiality as well as customer service are lacking at times, and we want to improve it,” said Hamilton. The new design will correct the inefficient window and line structure currently in place.

The project, tentatively estimated at \$100k, will

try to correct the ineffective window and line layout.



“We pooled information and insight from Castleton

State College, because they've already renovated their offices into one consolidation,” said Hamilton. The dean gave an estimated projected completion date of the spring semester of 2006.

He stated that while no exact design is planned, the campus planning committee and the advisory committee will be involved in the planning process. Hamilton also said plans to hold public forums similar to those held during the Library Academic Center construction are opening.



Four simple steps to finding a good mechanic

By Nicole Miner

Having a car is nearly essential to living in New England. As important as cars are it is vital to keep your automobile in a good working condition. Here are a few tips to help you find the perfect mechanic for your car:

- Word of mouth. The best way to find a good mechanic is to ask people who have lived in the area for a while and know what garages are available and what their reputations are. If you do not know any of the natives you can call an auto shop teacher at Lyndon Institute, St. Johnsbury Academy, or your local high school and they can help point you in the right direction.

Get a few written estimates from different garages and see how they compare. The cheapest is not always the best. Stay away from \$9 oil changes. In most cases you get what

you ask for and the parts required for a lube and oil change cost at least \$9.

- Get a second opinion. Some garages will try to take advantage of college students and say you need new brakes or tie rod. In some cases the car does not need this attention for several thousand more miles. This is likely to happen when you go somewhere for a \$9 oil change. They need to make money somewhere if they are not charging for oil changes, so they will try to make you fix something else that is not really needed.

- You should expect to pay at least \$20 for a lube and oil change. It takes between fifteen and twenty minutes to do and is crucial to the well being of your vehicle. Changing your tires at the appropriate time of the year is also very important. It only costs between twenty and thirty dollars and will keep your car in great shape and road legal.

LSC struggles to lure in faculty applicants

By Jordan Manges

For almost four years now, the Lyndon State College English department has been trying to fill a vacant journalism position. The Science department is in a similar situation as it has been searching to fill a biology/natural science position for the same time as well. In all, a total of nine full-time faculty positions seek to be filled for the Fall 2005 semester. When the initial pool of applicants has consistently been anywhere from thirty-five to one hundred for each position, the task of filling any of the positions shouldn't be too difficult. Unfortunately for LSC, it

For many prospective

job applicants, much of LSC's appeal lies alongside the comforting notion that with teaching at LSC come small, personable class sizes, and inexpensive living within a small community.

The Northeast Kingdom of Vermont is well known for its small, tightly knit communities, and LSC exists in the heart of all that.

There have been instances when new faculty have actually taken a pay decrease to come work at LSC, because the perks of inexpensive living in this area seemed worth it, said Education department co-chair Tim Sturm. But for the past couple of years now, those perks haven't been enough to balance out the

low salary offered to faculty. The initial number of applicants for each position is usually cut in half with the click of the phone after they've heard what the salary is.

Along with the low salary come increased expectations for faculty. A full-time faculty member in any given academic department teaches three to four classes, which is the equivalent of a full course load for students. Since LSC has the GEU program, faculty are also finding themselves teaching a class somewhat outside of their department, within the GEU program. On top of this there is a significant amount of committee work to be done.

For a faculty member,

finding the time to focus on scholarly research in conjunction with the classes they teach within their department, becomes difficult and stressful.

As each department narrows down the candidates that have held on past the first phone call for a position, all too often once they make it to campus the additional expectations become apparent, and the candidate finds themselves no longer interested in joining the LSC community.

It is a cycle that is becoming more and more familiar to each department as they look to fill a position.

Benefits and disadvantages to living on and off campus

By Nicole Miner

Deciding to move off campus is a huge decision and should not be taken lightly. It sounds wonderful, freedom from parents and the policies on campus and getting out there and living on your own, but it is not the right decision for everyone. There are many factors that play into living off campus, some of which most people never even consider.

First and foremost are the costs of living off campus. Rent is not usually straightforward. When moving into an apartment the first and last month's rent are expected up front. For some apartments, that can be over \$1,000 before you even move into the apartment. Then there are the side expenses; heat, hot water, trash and snow removal, phone, Internet, cable, and transportation. Not to mention you need to buy all of your own food instead of flashing your ID in the din-

ing hall or snack bar.

If you are not attentive to all of your bills you may damage your credit history, and when you leave school and need to buy a house or a car and someone pulls up your credit history they will see that you are not responsible in paying your monthly bills. It is very hard to change a bad credit history. It can stay with you for the rest of your life.

Many students argue that living off campus is better because you are free to come and go whenever you like, which is helpful if you have an off campus job during breaks. Next year, however, the school will be issuing a new policy that says students who hold an off campus job will be able to remain on campus during breaks in order to work.

Many juniors and seniors choose to move off campus and get a taste of the real world, but there are also many

who are choosing to come back to campus. That may be in part due to the new residence buildings, and also due to them finding out that living off campus is not all it is cracked up to be.

"I want to see more off campus students come back to campus... Living on campus is the way to go," said Jonathan Davis, the director of residential life.

Students looking to move off campus should meet with someone in the residential life office before moving off campus to see if it is right for them. Living off campus can help in saving money, but it will not unless there are two or three other roommates and everyone is on the same page as far as paying bills on time and being cost efficient are concerned. Moving off campus is not something to be taken lightly, and should be studied and talked over before the final decision is made.

LSC hosts annual legislative breakfast

LYNDON CENTER, VT. - Area legislators had breakfast at Lyndon State College on Monday, April 11, when they heard Lyndon President Carol Moore speak on the "State of the College" and Vermont State Colleges Chancellor Robert Clarke, who explained facts and figures from the state college system as a whole.

Moore described changes that have taken place at the college, such as a growing enrollment and fundraising initiatives that have led to an increase in Lyndon's endowment from just over \$300,000 in the past five years to approximately \$1.3

14 million today.

Clarke predicted a drop in the number of college-age students in the next 10 years,

as seen in the current numbers of elementary and high schools, and said that would

lead to tuition increases unless the state appropriation kept pace with the drop in tuition revenue



Representative Steven Larrabee (R-Caledonia-Washington-1) chats with Rep. Dick Lawrence (R-Caledonia-4) and VSO General Counsel Mary Alice McKenzie at the legislative breakfast on Monday.

LSC rugby honors troops

By Regina Rooney

For years, the Lyndon State Rugby club has discussed putting up a flagpole on their field, but nothing has ever gotten done. Then, last semester the club received a powerful incentive when Lyndon

State said goodbye to student soldiers Dylan Barton, Josh Roman, and Robert Moses.

"The three guys that got sent to Kuwait and Iraq all played rugby at some point," explained club president Ryan Gatto.

Student Government passed their March 2 request to reallocate \$575 to pay for the pole, and the club is working on getting the base donated. The rest of the cost will come from their fundraising. The pole will be located to the

right, beyond the far try zone, and will fly the American and the POW flags. They aim to have the flagpole up by graduation, but would like to be able to play under it this spring.

Smokey

continued from page 6

seemed tempting to get rid of, but immature and thoughtless to do.

Even after a month of not being together, I tear up, because the one thing Smokey Bear never gave me, that I gave Fly Boy, was closure. It's such a common idea, but one many of us choose to neglect in the end of a relationship.

The only comfort I hold is a friend of mine walking hand in hand with me through this experience. She too has been dumped by a guy and suddenly is becoming the enemy just as quickly as she became the friend. As she is, I am left feeling crazy, confused and plain perturbed. My brain, just as hers, cannot comprehend what has happened. I just know it did happen, and that now I have to pick up the pieces of my life. The people who royally messed with our lives, the guys, still remain a part of our lives. I will see my ex daily and try but fail to remain friends with some of our mutual friends.

And the worst part of all, I cannot seem to shake this man who has affected me so greatly. I still get up every morning and try to live my life; some days I fail whereas others I triumph. I sit through my classes, space out the instant my miserable ex jumps back into my mind, knowing full well I have escaped his mind long ago. As obviously, the man forgets about you the moment "I think we should break up," escapes their mouths.

Which brings me back to the article I read, how come we should break up? Jake's reason was beautiful, perhaps the reason why we all end relationships; the idea that there is someone better out there for us. When Jake's girlfriend calls him out on his overdone response, "It's not you, it's me", he finally forces himself to respond with a genuine answer.

This is an answer I ask all men to read, understand, memorize and follow till the day they die:

"I wanted this to work out more than anything. But I keep trying to change you into the kind of person I can see myself with forever, and you keep getting pissed at me. I've

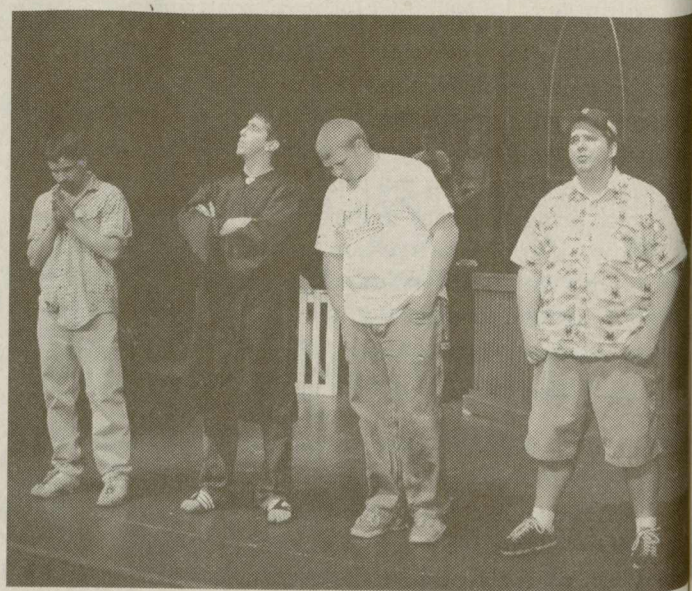
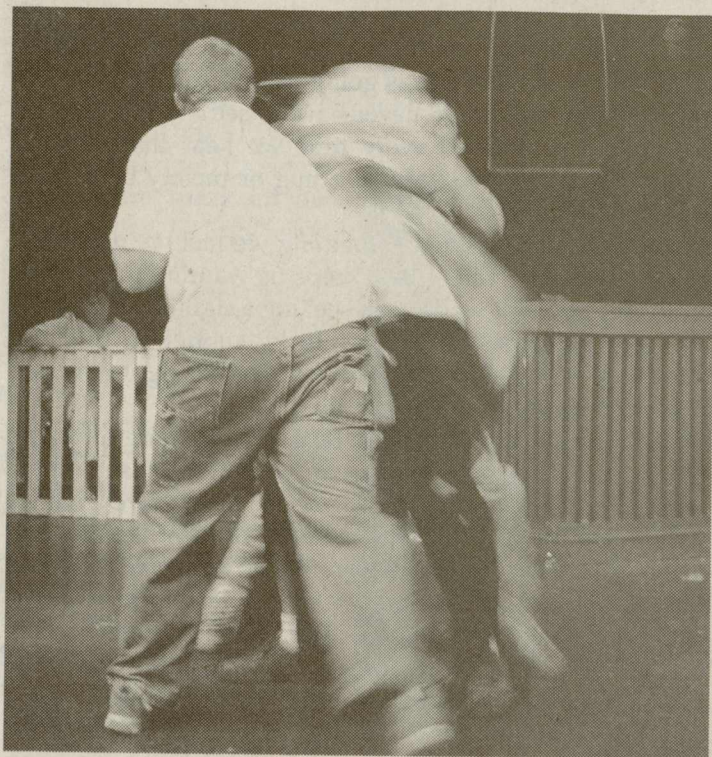
fought with myself about this a million times, and part of me always says that this is as good as it's going to get and I should just suck it up. But I don't want to commit because I'm sucking it up. I have to believe there's a relationship for me that will make me feel excited to give everything I've got."

It was as if just by reading what I was thinking, I understood. Smokey Bear did not want to simply suck it up and settle for me. We were happy, but not ecstatic. There were things that both of us wanted to change in each other, that we believed would make our relationship perfect if we could just alter them. Smokey Bear and I were forcing each other to settle, to look the other way, and worst of all, to suck it up. But no person should transform themselves to simply be in a relationship. Before anyone can be in a relationship they need to know themselves and be okay with every detail about their life. If that means waiting forever, then forever is what it was going to take to be happy in a relationship. We should never have to settle on something, we should be thrilled every time we hear that person's voice, see their smile, receive a hug or merely be in their presence.

Relationships are not something we feel we need, it is the intimacy and safety that keeps us wanting them. The fear of being alone leads us to seeking a significant other, to end that loneliness. Some are lucky enough to find real love, and some others choose to settle on the right now person, until the right one comes along.

Perhaps that is all Smokey Bear was, a desire to not be lonely, but then again maybe he wasn't, because I know when I put on this baseball cap, we can never have what we had; I have to hope that the memory of what we had and lost will be enough to get me by. For no matter what hatred I hold for Smokey Bear, my love for him is so intense and so true, I can't let go, not just yet. But when I do finally accept that life will go on and that there is a light at the end of the tunnel, I will know it. I will realize that I did choose Mr. Right now, instead of Mr. Right.

Twilight Players 2005



Lyndon community shows support

Regina Rooney

With deployment numbers of regular and reserve forces soaring, more soldiers head overseas every day. Consequentially, more families and loved ones are left behind. These folks are not being forgotten. Rather, in a time of need local communities are sharing more of themselves than ever.

According to Sgt. Dick Ball at the Lyndonville Armory, the response from the population towards the families has been overwhelming. Right now there are soldiers from Lyndonville serving a year in Saudi Arabia, and there are soldiers in training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, who will deploy in the summer for Iraq. Every National Guard armory in the state has a Family Readiness Coordinator, usually a civilian, in charge of organizing support efforts on the home front. Wayne Boyce is Lyndonville's coordinator, and he can be contacted with any ideas or offers of help.

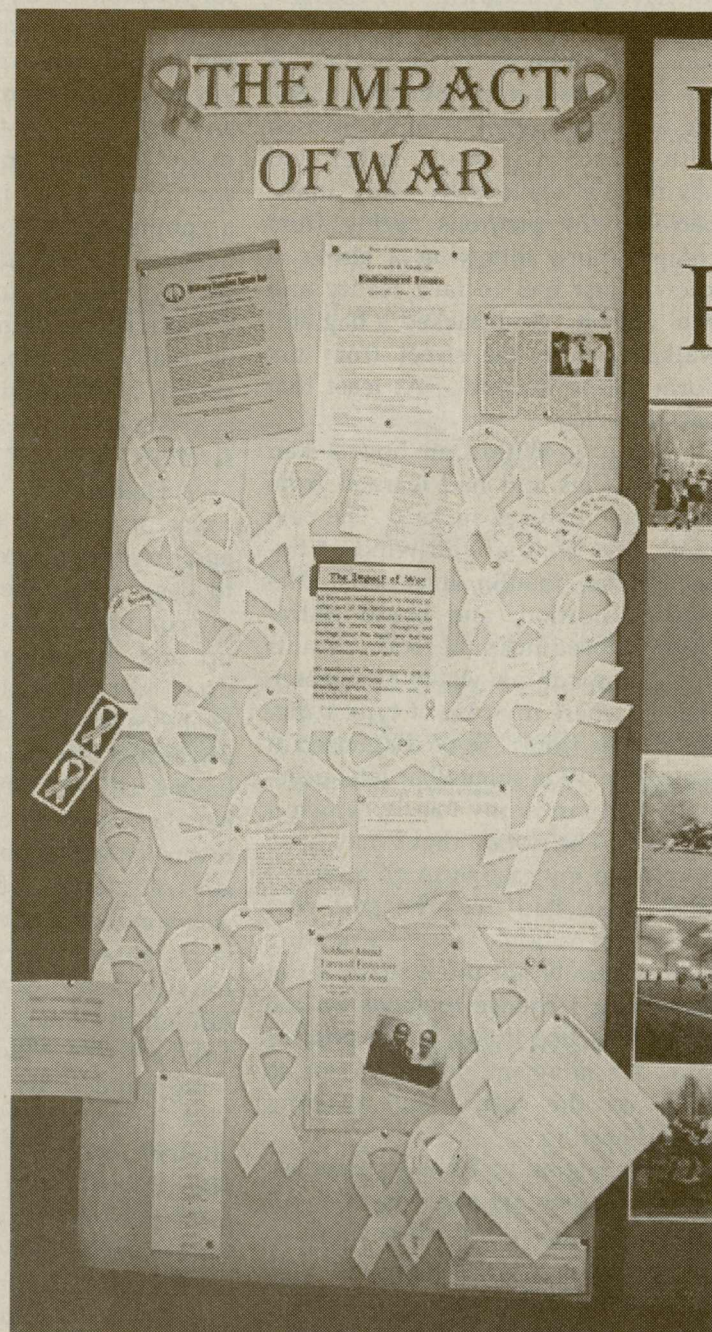
It is not only through the Armory that the community is reaching out. Dinners and socials have been held by many area organizations, allowing for the crucial networking that these families need. On Sunday, March 6, Burke Mountain held a free day of skiing and riding for dependents (spouses and children) of those deployed. U.S. Food Service and Maple Grove Farms both donated food and the day kicked off with a free pancake breakfast at the base lodge. There were about 27 family members who attended. Dave Gwatkin of Burke Mountain came up with the idea, and he said, "When you think of the sacrifice these people make everyday the least we can do is offer a free ski and ride day."

Lyndon State College is doing its part, too. In February, Professor Pat Shine sent out an email asking for volunteers. She had met Rev. Martin Fors, a local chaplain who works with the families, and wanted to get the college involved. She said that though there is a good community support network, sometimes, like in the case of a snowstorm, a little extra help is needed. There were about 15 students who responded, saying they'd be happy to help shovel or do whatever else they could.

ASSIST is also chipping in with efforts for the troops themselves. The club is currently collecting items to send overseas, like antifungal foot powder, magazines, and coffee.

They are also collecting school supplies (no crayons please, they will melt) and other items for the children in Iraq. The box for donations can be found in the admissions office.

In the science wing there is a bulletin board dedicated to those serving, and the parking lots are full of cars



with yellow ribbons on them. The Lyndon community has not forgotten those overseas, or those left behind. However, in Shine's opinion awareness can always be raised: "This needs to be addressed a lot more on campus than it has...There are A LOT of connections here at LSC."

For more information or to get involved, contact Wayne Boyce 626-8130, or call the Lyndonville Armory.

Diabetes

continued from page 2

n't have a breakdown. Of course I was upset, and yes, I would cry as soon as I got on the phone and heard my mother's voice. But after dealing with my mother being diagnosed with cancer two years earlier and having my uncle pass away unexpectedly the previous spring from complications following a stroke, I knew I just had to face reality and deal with it. So I packed a bag and walked across the street from my dorm to the hospital. At least that part was easy.

Within an hour I had met Dr. Cias and had learned from him that "diabetes sucks". The next three days were a whirlwind of finger pricks, insulin injections, diabetes education, and bland nutrasweet infused hospital food. To this day I don't think we've tied down exactly where my case of type 1 diabetes came from. To be diagnosed at the age of 19 is somewhat late, especially if it ran in my family, which it doesn't. The notion that I may have developed my case through a virus I might have had over the past year became an option.

Knowing how I actually got the disease is not something I choose to focus on too acutely, its like living in the past. I think it's more important for me to focus on the future and keeping myself healthy.

In the beginning I had to prick my finger to check my sugar level about five times a day. My method was to use one side of each finger one day, the other side the next, and then the other finger in the same way. After four days all my fingers would be "used up", and it was time to start over on fingers that still felt swollen and sore. Most anybody cringes at the idea of having to give themselves shots everyday. I've always hated needles and shots. I don't have many options though; it's either do it, or die. Granted, I wouldn't keel over and die after not giving

18 myself an injection of insulin

for a couple of days. It would be a more stretched out, painful affair. My blood pressure would probably skyrocket, I eventually wouldn't be able to read because my eyesight would be shot, my kidneys would shut down, and I might have to lose a couple of toes or a finger due to nervous system disease. Diabetes undiagnosed or untreated leads to complications with all those things. So really, the process of having to stick a needle in my leg or stomach everyday becomes a bit easier to swallow.

Diabetes is the fifth leading cause of death in the United States, and there is no cure. In order for me to keep a positive attitude towards my condition, I have to keep my chin up and remember that the disease does not have to ruin my life. Diabetes has tested me mentally and physically like no other experience I have ever had. My whole life I have been a competitive athlete, and during my high-school years I attended ski academy (Burke Mountain Academy) as a nordic skier. For four years almost everyday I would see the sunrise as I carried someone up a hill on my back, or ran through a field with the Willoughby Gap in the foreground. My days were filled with classes, soccer practice and another work-out, or in the winter an afternoon of skiing. Pushing myself to be almost out of breath for about 75% of each day was something that I was good at. Carrying someone up the side of a mountain was not torture for me, yes my legs burned, but if my body weren't able to do that everyday I would have burned with boredom.

As a freshman at UVM, I was a member of the highly competitive Nordic ski team, and much to my dismay, carrying someone up a hill became much like torture for me. I had never felt so out of shape in my life. The truth is, I don't think I had ever been out of shape in my life. I

was frustrated because I had no reason to feel or be out of shape, I hadn't ever stopped regularly exercising to put me in the category of being out of shape. My first collegiate ski season was a huge disappointment for me. A month or so after the season ended, I found out I had diabetes, and with that diagnoses came an explanation for my physical woes. Even minor physical injuries had never gotten in the way of my athletic endeavors before. I could accept fairly well that I had diabetes. It was when I realized what an effect the disease had over the way my body performed physically that I became really pissed off. Never before had I been tested like that, my physical abilities were my sanity, I had always been able to do them so well, but now that I felt like crap every time I went for a measly two mile jog I felt the anger and bitterness start to cloud over my mentality that was no longer balanced out by a superior physical state of being.

Luckily for me, exercise is a key form of helping to control diabetes. Aerobic exercise helps lower blood-sugar levels naturally, as well as simply keeping the body physically healthy. Realizing that my mental state of mind was going to have to support my physical state of being, instead of vice versa, was key in allowing me to move forward with my diabetes. I, as well as my doctors attribute my good control of the disease to my continuously active lifestyle. Its like a domino effect; if I were to cease running through the fields or skiing through the woods, my grip on the mentality aspect of my diabetes would loosen, and I would neglect aspects of taking care of myself.

This is what I distinctly remember telling myself early on into my diagnosis: it could be worse. So I shouldn't eat a piece of cake after every meal, or drink a huge glass of orange juice with breakfast, at least I

Update on contract talks with faculty

By Nicholas R. Plante

The outcome of the Vermont State College's faculty contract remains unchanged and unresolved for the moment. VSC Chancellor Robert Clarke commented, "We're awaiting the end of the legislative season," and pointed out there are, "No on going negotiations." He feels confident that the Vermont

Labor Board ruling will be upheld. The ruling sided with the VSC administration.

"No faculty union members have contacted me, and there are no negotiations," said Clarke. When asked about his reaction of the recent no confidence vote from Lyndon State College and Castleton State College he stated, "I feel it's a brew-ha and is

negatively directed to the faculty contract negotiations and every faculty quote I've read is ludicrous."

The Faculty Federation remains hopeful that the legislature will act and overturn the labor board's decision and continues to attempt legislature member to vote in their favor.

Pope

continued from page 5

455 years, and there was speculation about whether or not the Vatican will appoint another Italian or whether the choice will come from farther afield, like Africa, South America, or India. Some LSC students feel it is time for a complete change in papal origin.

"I'm kind of hoping it's not a Western civilization he [the next pope] comes from...there are Catholics all over the world... it's time to get out of Europe," said Siobhan O'Hea, a Catholic.

Blackmon agreed. "I want him to be from South America because we ignore

them... massacres and genocides are going on in South America like nobody's business... We hear more large-scale things about Africa than South America. I just want to see some more power go to a continent that doesn't have power."

There is no denying that

the choice of the new pope will impact Catholics and non-Catholics alike, as the leader of the Church's 1.1 billion members wields not only powerful spiritual authority, but major political influence as well.

Diabetes

continued from page 18

can still eat these things (in extreme moderation). We live in modern times; nutra-sweet has become a wonderful substitute for sugar and we diabetics can get a cookbook that gives us all kinds of ways to use it and produce all the sugarless concoctions we desire. Like cancer or AIDS, diabetes has no cure, but there is hope. At the forefront of research for a cure is stem cell research. Since stem cells are a key ingredient needed to create every tissue in the body, stem cell research helps scientists and doctors to see if they can manipulate cells to create insulin-producing cells within the pancreas, along with helping to repair tissue that is damaged

by diabetes over time. As long as stem cell research is able to continue moving forward, I have complete faith that one day soon I won't have to jab myself in the leg with a needle three times a day.

Unfortunately, the number of diagnosed cases of diabetes in the U.S. keeps climbing, especially type 2. Much of this is a result of the unhealthy lifestyle and diets of Americans and their children. Simply staying active and eating a healthy, balanced diet is a huge step towards diabetes prevention. Being a college student, away from mom's wagging finger telling you to eat your broccoli, it becomes harder to

eat right. The stress of schoolwork and the urges to have a good time with all the "freedom" that college students have, makes it even harder to find time to stay active. It can be done though. If you feel like I did-frequently thirsty and hungry, frequently having to urinate, and your sleeping patterns are out of whack, you might want to visit a doctor to check things out. On the web, check out www.diabetes.org for a plethora of information and statistics about the disease. Having diabetes can suck, but it doesn't have to. The key to living comfortably with the disease lies within our own mind and hands.

Who pays for vandalism?

By Angela DiMillo

There have been many instances of vandalism on LSC campus in the last few years, including the science wing, which was torn apart during the summer semester, and the lights on the cement stairway heading up to vail, which are kicked out almost ceremoniously each spring.

But this year the amount of vandalism and damage is the most in LSC history. The problem is centered on Wheelock the freshman dorm. Though no one person is responsible for the

damage, it is the entire building that has to pay. Whenever there is any damage done to a dorm building, such as was done to Baily last year when an unknown student spread ketchup and mustard all along the hall ways on the third floor carpet, it is the residents of that building who are forced to share the cost of repair. This amount can range from 50 to 100 dollars per resident.

The amount of damage done to Wheelock is getting to the point where even its residents are fed up with the

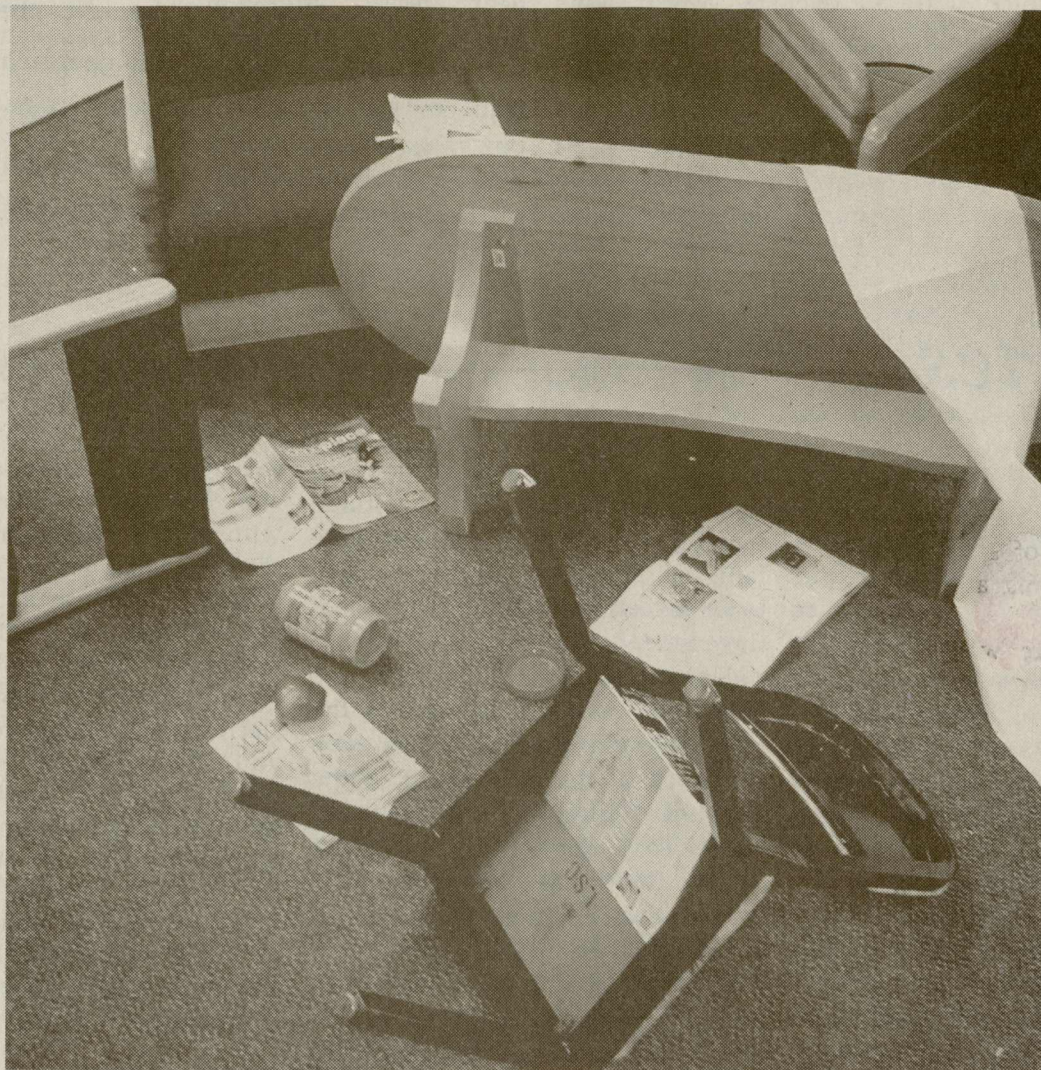
destruction. Along with the warning signs put up by the RHDs, students have voiced their opinion of the childishness of the persons responsible.

Not a bulletin board has been left intact for more than a day in the halls of Wheelock, making the RA's job to inform the students of Wheelock of events impossible.

The hardest hit was the Wheelock basement which had been newly reinitiated for this year. A sitting area, phone, two TVs, new carpeting, were all added, and

the kitchens remodeled. This was all destroyed when a few students decided to rip it up. The new work has been done.

The vandals responsible for this mess have not been found yet, but suspects have been identified for further investigation, and the RA's, RHDs, and public safety are keeping an extra look-out to prevent this from happening in the future.



Legal high not all it seems. . .

By Angela DiMillo

You may not be able to stock up on over-the-counter medicine and get a high. This usage among early teens has been attributed to television shows like the Simpsons and South Park who glorify the time, but only recently have the numbers of teenage users reached such a high. This usage among early teens has been attributed to television shows like the Simpsons and South Park who glorify the

The high is attributed to the ingredient dextromethorphan. Dextromethorphan, also known as DXM acts as a cough-suppressor when taken in low doses, and is contained in more than 140 over the counter products. When taken in large doses, however, it can act as a semi synthetic narcotic.

The feelings experienced after taking such drugs have been described as a "miserable high."

Who do robo-trip do sick-

and

were

bugs crawling over my skin, inside and out," said one user. "I didn't see too many visuals either. It was defiantly one of the worst highs I've experienced."

This is not a new problem for teenagers. The drug DXM has been used in medicine since the 1960s, and has been overdosed on since around that

time, but only recently have the numbers of teenage users reached such a high. This usage among early teens has been attributed to television shows like the Simpsons and South Park who glorify the

to new regulations which make it possible for pharmaceutical companies to call each other to find who is taking which drugs from which doctors, also making it harder for people to sell or overdose on their



usage of liquid medicine in their episodes. Cases in older teens show while they used to self medicate using prescription drugs, they are now trying cold medicine as a substitute. This switch may be due

prescription medication.

Most young people who are overdosing don't realize the severe negative effects of doing so. The extreme low dosage of the drug in these medicines requires the taker to drink

more than one bottle in order to feel any true effect. By doing so the person is running a huge risk to their own life and health. The active ingredient with the largest quantity in these medicines is almost always Acetaminophen. For every milligram of DXM there is over 30 milligrams of Acetaminophen per bottle. That means if you were to drink a little over a bottle you would have enough Acetaminophen in your system to destroy your liver. With that much medicine in the system, the body rejects the drugs, and throwing-up is unavoidable.

Even DXM in its pure form will cause mental status changes, causing extreme depression in the mentally sound, thoughts of suicide, confusion, hallucinations, cognitive alterations, delusions, and loss of consciousness.

The physical health hazards are of DXM include dry mouth, loss of body fluid, dry itchy skin, blurred vision, abdominal pain, irregular heartbeat, nausea, high blood pressure, numbness of fingers and toes, redness of face, headache, seizures and in some cases death

The "high" is contained within the brain, and is really just the feeling and reaction of the brain being poisoned by the overdose of the medication. Though non-addicting, it can lead to mental dependencies, and can be

FEATURE SECTION

The following pieces (including Hannah Fadden's Smokey Bear puts out the relationship Fire) are contributions from Alan Boye's creative non-fiction class. They are being printed in the Critic as part of a extended edition.

Texas Falls. . .

By Caleb Byerly

We sat, my girlfriend and me, on the moss-covered boulder, eons of erosion, and gazed at the majestic splendor of the Texas Falls cascade in Hancock, Vermont. The river poured, gurgled, and churned as it flowed through the craggy rocks. In the pools of tranquil water, we could see the small, smooth stones that settled on the bottom of the river, blanketed by a sheet of crystal blue green ripples. A slow breeze passed through the trees, and cool droplets of mist from the frothing river moistened my face, invigorating me. Patricia nudged my arm and said, "Can you feel that sunlight?"

I looked up through the shadowy trees and caught a glimpse of the broken sunlight piercing through the thick branches. A few times, the breeze would sway the branches just enough to allow the sunlight to splash on my

skin and warm my body. This place was truly beautiful, like a perfect blending of earth, air, fire and water.

I imagined what life must have been like here centuries ago, long before Columbus landed on the shores of Virginia. Native Americans would have probably considered this place sacred, like a home to a god. Perhaps a shaman once collected the water from the clear river for use in some form of healing ritual. It was relaxing to sit there and listen to the churning of the river, to feel the warmth of the sun through the trees, and to hear the chirping of the birds.

We stood up, brushed off our bottoms and began to walk the trails. Wooden man-made bridges and stairs made for easy navigation over the creeks and steep hills and allowed us to focus on and enjoy the fantastic beauty of the forest. I felt a sudden

surge of boyhood memories inside me. Flashbacks of running along these very same trails, climbing the very same trees and jumping off the very same rocks in a display of childish delight ran through my mind. As we hiked along these dirt paths, I jumped and landed in a childish joy, much to my embarrassment.

As I remembered the joy I had felt playing on the trails as a child, I imagined taking my future children here and the memories they would have of this place and the appreciation for the beauty of nature I hoped they would acquire. Rather than admire a recreational contraption, designed to make life simpler, I want my children to realize the beauty that exists right under their nose.

As the snow melts

By: Norm Johnson

Half-way to the woodpile a few weeks ago, I found myself hopelessly mired, one foot in a slowly sinking rubber boot, the other in a white cotton sock jerking around over four inches of boot-top protruding from the mud a short step behind. My body was slowly losing the battle with gravity. "I hope the neighbors don't see me do this." I muttered.

New Englanders are accustomed to four distinct seasons moving them from one season to the next, like curtains rising and falling on a stage scene. I've moved around a bit in my life; each place I've lived is uniquely different from the rest. Before moving to Vermont, I lived in a high desert climate, where summer became winter in the matter of a few days without much fanfare. After thirty years on the high desert, spring became as vague as my first math textbook.

I have found that winters are harsh in both places. The high desert gets more snow, but in comparison, New England winters are more temperature variable than those of central Oregon. The difference is having a definite fall and spring to catch one's breath between the cold and hot months.

Most graphically, New England spring produces a dramatic eruption of fresh new growth on a bare countryside, clothing nude trees with the raiment of the prettiest greens of the year. In contrast, the evergreens of Oregon's high desert are perennially green. The desert blooms, after June rains for a single week, with tiny subtly-colored flowers of water-conservative plants. Newcomers to the high desert often find it drab, especially when compared to the color and grandeur of a New England spring and fall—one scene is big and brawny, the other, fleeting and subtle.

In the basement, after peeling off a muddy sock and hosing myself off, I realized I was having an epiphany. Spring, a season I'm accustomed to missing, was beginning before my very eyes. I would have missed it if the mud hadn't slowed me down.

"What is important here?" I thought. "Who cares if someone saw you do a swan-dive into the mud; if someone called you a flatlander? It's really a matter of atti-

tude, not altitude." From the depths of my dusty mind, I conjured up a dusty tie-died philosophy from the sixties: "Live in the Here and Now."

I'm moving to Florida in a few months. Six months ago this move would have seemed bizarre, but life is often a grand slalom course. In Florida, though the locals will argue with you, the climate is much the same all year (except for hurricane season, which is a little more severe than black fly season in New England.) The temperature drops into the forties and it rains a bit during the winter, but it doesn't go below zero, and toilets

NEVER freeze solid. On the other hand, I've lived in the tropics and know that slightly variable climates can be boring.

I love mountains, I like hiking in them, and enjoy living around spectacular mountainous skylines. In Florida, the horizon is broken by water towers and radio masts flashing with white strobe lights.

I'll miss The White Mountains as I miss the Oregon Cascades. I'll miss the fall colors and raging,

ice-choked rivers during spring break-up in New England. I will miss the startlingly pure English, Irish, and Scots accents coming through the conversation around a bubbling sap evaporator as much as I miss the soft Western drawl of the announcer at the Sisters Rodeo.

"But Florida is warm—Jimmy Buffet country." I reminded myself. "All a person needs for clothing is a pair of shorts, a couple golf shirts, and a pair of 'go-aheads.' Florida is surrounded by white sand beaches and warm water. There are the Florida Keys, the Everglades National Park, and a population rich in mixed culture. I can start speaking Spanish again, and rediscover how it changes my perspective on things."

"Whoa!" I was getting ahead of myself again.

"Ommmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm...Use NOW as a mantra." I thought.

So this spring in Vermont, as the snow melts, I am concentrating on keeping my eyes and ears open to the experience, because if I don't, I will only find this again in the words of a travel section of some future Sunday paper, and that would be sad.

"I hope the neighbors don't see me do this...New Englanders are accustomed to four distinct seasons, moving them from one season to the next."

Is reality becoming cliché?

By Crystal James

Channel surfing one afternoon I turned to one of my guiltiest pleasures. Ah, the famous MTV. I sat intrigued watching a whiny 15-year-old girl (with the body of a playboy playmate, mind you) proceed to throw a fit because her parents failed to buy her a Range Rover for her 16th birthday. Though I sat appalled- I didn't change the channel. When the show was over and I went back to real, real-life I wondered is this ever going to end?

Has reality TV gone too far? We can't turn on any network without seeing some sort of reality show these days and it would probably be a lie if we said we didn't enjoy at least one. It's hard to believe the once laughed at reality TV has now become the most successful genres on television.

Though it has really taken off in the last five years, reality television is not a new phenomenon. Candid Camera, which originally started in radio, has been around since 1948 and is considered the first reality television ever. The TV network then tested the waters in the crime show Wanted, an earlier version of America's Most Wanted, which aired on CBS. PBS aired An American family, a documentary series, in 1973, and who can forget about America's Funniest Videos which debuted in 1990.

However we have come a long way since then. Whether we're watching overly-dramatic roommate spats on the Real World,

Donald Trump saying "you're fired" on The Apprentice or watching celebrities live their daily lives on shows like Newlyweds, we are not surprised.

It makes us wonder, why all the attention to reality television now?

Many of the shows these days offer hefty prizes to be taken home after a comple-

record deal for, well honestly, being a horrible singer that people can laugh at. And yet another laugh credential show, MTV's latest phenomenon MADE, makes ordinary teenagers into anything they want to be, but what they don't realize is that their friends and classmates are insulting them behind their back and the whole world is

watching isn't getting trayed exactly the way happened.

Although these most reality shows known for their trashy and less than role models we can actually profit some shows. Shows such as The Apprentice and American Idol tell us for our dreams, while TLC's reality show help us do anything redecorate a room for \$1,000 to make any look better from the inside.

In a society with drama, what on us on the edge of our now often fails to keep attention until the next commercial. Sex on TV was taboo but now would even watch if we were promised a sneak peek someone else's pe world?

With such a big show craze going on hard to find a static hasn't jumped on the wagon with, at least not an array of different reality shows. We check schedules for the hour that our favorite show and we barely pay notice those we don't like either way they're the

Although it has profitable and in some beneficial, perhaps TV is too far gone and ly dramatized. It's not to say we should ban TV all together, go watching The Brady and forget the social have come to be too we need to be able to some reality TV and ourselves... this is not

"Has reality TV gone too far? We can't turn on any network without seeing some sort of reality show these days..."

tion of some task (which of course is filmed). Shows such as Survivor, Road Rules and Fear Factor offer large cash prizes for carrying out an often life risking stunt or a downright disgusting task. Some shows such as The Bachelor and Joe Millionaire even award the possibility of "love". And of course there is the ultimate prize to many fame. Many contestants from more popular shows can't go anywhere without being recognized, and those who win shows like American Idol receive record deals. But apparently there is no talent necessary; I think we all remember reality show "loser" William Hung who was awarded a

watching. Reality television is also less expensive than scripted shows and there is no shortage of willing contestants. Producers often find people at casting calls in big cities, but they have been known to find them in bars, through friends on web sites and almost anywhere else. Producers look for those who are real but they also look for those who would make shows prosper.

Speaking of real, we often wonder how "real" reality TV is. The producers often initiate drama and set up sticky situations so the result will be more entertaining. Hundreds of hours of film are then edited down to an hour program. In other words, everything we are



*Sometimes the best
talks can come from*

the most unlikely sources, in this case, it was . . .

Conversations with Tiger Lily, Part 2

By Marla Sawyer

I don't talk to the dead, and I don't leave offerings for them. Even so, today I felt compelled to walk among the stones at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, carrying with me a smooth shell and a sea-tossed chunk of milky alabaster, tokens of friendship in remembrance of a beautiful day ten years ago.

Tiger had never seen the ocean. On an impulse one Saturday morning I said to her, "Let's go! Right now." I pushed her wheelchair to my car, helped her into the passenger seat and folded the wheelchair into the trunk. Then Tiger and I set out on a three hour drive toward Boston and beyond, to the wind-whipped beaches and boardwalks of my childhood.

"I've never been out of Vermont," Tiger says, "except for Littleton. I've been in a big city, though. Burlington. My daughter lives there, you know."

Burlington is not a big city, I say.

"Big to me," she retorts. We drive through the Notch and Tiger smokes cigarettes, watching the scenery go by. Now and then she tells me things about her life, but I never know what is true and what just seems true to her. Tiger never lies; she just tells whatever is true to her at the moment. She says one of her kids was born in the bathtub at the Poorhouse. The whole thing barely took ten minutes. She had a husband once, but he died in the 50's. He was mean anyway. One of her kids stabbed her with a knife once. Terrible thing to do to your own mother. She had a brother who was killed in the Depression years – pushed off the Portland Street Bridge when he was 12.

I know Tiger has had a rough life. I know she's made mistakes. And I know that this old woman has spent the last of her years isolated and alone, scavenging in a dumpster for food, with only her own thoughts for company.

She needs one carefree day.

As we approach the toll booth, Tiger exclaims, "What the hell is that?!"

It's a toll booth. You have to pay 75 cents to go through.

"WHY?" She's outraged. "Who gets the money?"

I dunno. Whoever maintains the road, I guess.

"Huh. I want to set up a toll booth. I'll keep the money."

We drive through Boston (before the Big Dig), and Tiger hangs out the window, craning her neck to look up at the

buildings. I decide to take a little detour toward Government Center.

"Wanna go get a seven-dollar cup of coffee and watch the people downtown?"

"Are you kidding?" She says.

We go. She watches the people, and I watch her. She wide-eyed like a child, swinging her crumpled, bony neck back and forth as she watches a green spiked hair-dobber and rollerbladers, leathers, chains and leopard prints, shopping women, gangs of teens, and a stunningly glamorous transvestite sashaying toward us from the left. I'm stifling laughter as I watch Tiger react to all this. I remind her to try her fancy coffee before it gets cold. After a while we continue on our way to Nantasket Beach in Hull.

I tell her stories about how I used to go to an amusement park here and ride the wooden rollercoaster with my friends over and over again. Paragon Park stood for 70 years, until it was razed in 1984 to build sea-side condos. Only the beach and the historic carousel remain.

At the boardwalk, Tiger sucks in her breath. The ocean stretches out to meet the sky before her, in a vast expanse flat and endless it overwhelms her. She doesn't speak. I help her into her wheelchair and try to push her to the outcropping of rocks that cuts into the surf, but her wheelchair won't budge in the sand. I have to carry her weight as she shuffles through the sand. It's no burden, really. Tiger is so frail.

I settle her on a blanket on the barnacle studded rocks, and Tiger slips her gnarled brown feet into the water. Corns and bunions submerge into the surf, and she cries out in surprise. "My feet don't burn anymore!"

Tears dribble down her cheeks, zig-zagging and pooling in the crevices of her face as she scans the horizon.

"Could I sit alone for a few minutes?" She asks.

"Of course! You stay here and I'll try to find some starfish and shells for you. Maybe even a hermit crab!" I leave her to her thoughts. Sea gulls swoop and arc around the rocks near Tiger, screeching in the air; a clanging bell buoy sounds off beyond. As I walk away, the wind rustles down the blackened line of dried seaweed and debris. I gather what shells and rocks I can find, along with a starfish and a small green crab. I present the pile of them to Tiger on the rocks.

Tiger is delighted. She insists on taking all of them back

See TIGERLILLY on page

Editorial

So as the school year draws to an end the last Critic is presented to the student body. For myself, and Editor Rachael Morrow, this marks the last edition of the Critic we will be responsible for. I will be graduating this spring and Rachael has decided not to return next year as the magazine's editor.

It certainly took a lot of time and effort over the course of the year to get the Critic set up and running efficiently. The first few issues usually had us sitting in the Critic office on the first floor of Vail until almost midnight while we tried to figure out what we were doing.

We would also like to thank all of the students and

faculty members that contributed to the paper in some way over the past year. I have worked on this publication for about three years, and this year's staff was arguably the most productive and dedicated staff to ever work on the paper.

At the end of the year, the schedule started to become more solid and the paper ran with a greater level of efficiency. The two of us have tried over the last year to set the paper up in a way that the next editor could walk right in and pick up where we left off.

My hope is that the next editor will put their own stamp on the Critic and improve upon the changes we made to the format and the style of writing. One

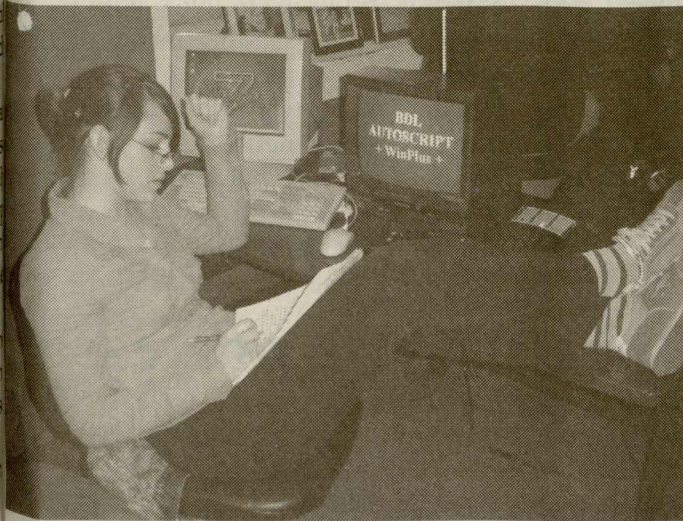
thing is for sure, it will require a tremendous amount of patience and energy, both to deal with the production end of the job and the diplomatic end as they will be forced to deal with the paper's advisor, Alan Boye.

I joke around with Alan about his persistence on this project but without his mediation skills the last year would not have been possible. There also would have been bloodshed in the Critic office on more than one occasion.

To my knowledge it is not known yet who that editor will be, but I'm sure they will have their growing pains as well. The best way to improve the paper is still seeking comments from the readership. I urge the student body and faculty to approach whoever edits the paper next year and express what they like and dislike about the publication.

That is the simplest and most efficient way to ensure the best quality paper possible.

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The Critic is a bi-weekly publication that serves the Lyndon State College Community. Feel free to send comments to critic@lyndonstate.edu

LETTER POLICY:

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. Generally, the Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

Letters
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Matthew Henson wins Emmy equivalent

By Angela DiMillo

Matthew Henson received first place in the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences award competition, which is the equivalent of an Emmy. He received this award in the category of college newscasts, for producing the Tuesday 5:30 p.m. broadcast at News 7.

"I knew this would be a winning show because everybody was hustling around, doing their stories. That was why I decided to send it in."

Originally from Gilbertsville, Pennsylvania, this is Henson's second time placing in the competition. In February of 2004 Matthew placed third. This year Henson won over Kristi Keck of Chapel Hill, beating their newscast Carolina Week, which first aired in 2000, but didn't go live until 2003.

The winning show aired the day after the 2004 New Hampshire primary and included stories collected in the granite state over the course of three days. Students collected footage of presidential hopefuls, along with local news and weather. With the help of WCAX-TV the students were able to use Channel 3's satellite van to beam reports from Howard Dean's campaign headquarters on Monday night for the 5:30 show on Tuesday.

"The show that day came out flawless. We all worked together and I couldn't have done it without the hard work of my team that day," said Henson.

The college level shows are judged first by preliminary panels composed of Television Academy members based on their category, then finalists from every category

are voted on by Academy Blue Ribbon Panels which select the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners.

Henson received \$2,000 from the Academy for his work, and \$2,000 in Product Grant of film stock from the Kodak Worldwide Student Program, but the highlight of the competition is the gala Awards Ceremony. In early March Henson was flown by the academy to Hollywood, California where he accepted his award alongside the other winners from each category.

"I was not as nervous accepting the award this year as I was last year when I got third. This year I was kind of used to the ceremony."

The event this year was hosted by Martin Bruehl from the sopranos, and more than 400 industry people were in attendance. Past presenters have included Jarrod Earl Jones; Tim Allen, Roger Ebert, Florence Henderson, and Bob Saget.

"I haven't put the award up yet, but I was thinking about putting it somewhere on the wall. A second copy of the award is being sent to the school as we speak."

Henson currently works for WCAX Channel 3, as a morning producer, but still keeps in touch with the News 7 crew by periodically sending e-mails to them containing story ideas.

"Working for news 7 definitely puts your foot in the door when working for news networks," Henson said. "and it helped me get my job. I love being the morning producer."

Philosophy department to lose sole professor

By Rachael Morrow

Lyndon State College's sole philosophy teacher will be leaving at the end of this school year and going west...but not as far west as you might think.

Next year, Heather Keith will be teaching philosophy at Green Mountain College in Poultney, Vermont. The college has about 650 stu-

dents, and is an environmental and liberal arts college.

GMC also offers a philosophy major, which is one of its big attractions for Keith. She has been interested in the college's service oriented mission for a while.

"Philosophy is all about saving the world," she said. "I appreciate a

college that's about that."

Keith said she is going to miss the students very much. Her favorite class to teach at Lyndon was Introduction to Philosophy, because of the sheer diversity of undergraduates.

"LSC has good students," she said.

Keith has been teaching philosophy at LSC for six

years, and is one of the English and philosophy department's top teachers.

Keith is splitting up this mid-year trio is the real tragedy.

"It's really sad," said the philosophy teacher. "I am absolutely going to miss everyday my English and philosophy students. I've been teaching philosophy for six leagues."

Online gamers hit a wall

Students are finding that while they may be able to reach online programs and games from other networks, they cannot do it from LSC. This is a big concern for those who may be spending \$9.99 a month or more for their online game subscription.

Zackary Durlin, the secretary of the LAN Party club, is one of those concerned with the interruption of his game play.

"Think about not being able to play online. [The LAN club] hate it for the most part. You can barely get the 'hoo! games to play in the student halls," he said.

Durlin says the club, which is centered around online play, is trying to regain access in a number of ways.

"Some people take their laptops to the student center to connect to the wireless and play, or even have dialup access to play in their rooms. It blocks so many ports that getting in is pretty much impossible. They opened one up just enough that sometimes (rarely) you can connect to the game program, but you can't play online, although it allows you to play across the

local network," said Durlan.

Michael Dente, the assistant chief technology officer at LSC, says the blocking is done

campus.

Thousand of ports are used, each for different services. There is a port for every



to keep LSC computers safe from viruses. All five VT state college campuses are behind one firewall which is controlled at the Chancellor's office. From there LSC is behind yet another firewall specifically for our campus. The firewalls block service on various ports. This is why some games no longer work once students get back on

program on your computer. Some are unblocked, like port 80, for viewing web pages, and others are blocked. The ports through which viruses travel are blocked, so no viruses can get into the LSC system. This is where a problem arises.

Some computer programs and games, such as first person shooters, go through the

same ports as some viruses. Because the ports for these programs are blocked they can not be accessed, and because viruses are such a problem on campus, these measures will continue to be taken.

"We clean five to seven computers a day, and have fixed half the computers owned on campus, for free. The restoring of a computer can take anywhere from a couple of hours to a few days, depending on how messed up the computer is," said Dente.

Currently Dente and the other IT personnel are trying to find a way for both the online games and firewalls to work.

"Some of the games like World of Warcraft and Counter Strike are in such high demand for play on campus that we at IT are trying to find a way to make it possible through the established firewalls," he said.

Over the summer the IT department at LSC plans to work with the other colleges to make it possible for some of the more popular games to be available on campus.

Tigerlilly

continued from page 2

of Vermont with her. I try to reason with her: Tiger, the fish and the crab will stink terribly within a day or two. I should really choose a few good ones, and leave the rest.

No. She wants them all -- every one. More.

As I help her back toward the car, she keeps stooping to the ground, nearly pulling me over -- greedily snatching up every rock and broken shell bit that comes within her reach. More.

My plastic bag is now stuffed to the seams, beginning to tear, and my shoulder is aching from carrying Tiger and her. Tiger wants more. She just doesn't want to leave this

beach. She doesn't want to leave this day.

The drive back to Vermont was solemn. Every now and then, as she smoked and gazed quietly out the window, Tiger would softly say, "Thank you."

I don't talk to the dead, and I don't leave offerings for them. But today I tried to find Tiger's grave at Mount Pleasant Cemetery, to leave a token of friendship for whoever might see it, a tide-worn rock and seashell beside the headstone of an old Indian woman. But in death, as in life, Tiger eludes me and I am still carrying that smooth shell and a sea-tossed rock as I write down this memory.

Rest easy now, Doris Mae.

History professor retires

Allen Yale opts for retirement and hobby-time

By Nicholas R. Plante

Allen Yale, Associate Professor of History and Education at Lyndon State College, will retire after the spring semester ends.

"It was time. I love teaching, but the committee work and other responsibilities were putting a bit of strain on me ... I didn't want stress to contribute to any chronic medical problems, so I decided it was time," stated Yale.

But Yale isn't letting go of teaching yet. "I don't think I'm totally out of teaching I know I'll be doing a little in the fall for the college and I might be willing to teach one or two classes a year for ten years maybe."

Yale has taught History and Secondary Education at LSC since 1994. Before coming to Lyndon, Yale worked for Vermont's division of historical preservation. He also taught high school. "I think my teaching shift {from high school to college} was a life saver. Change in life revitalizes a person. If I had the same job for 40 years I

don't know if I could have kept being enthusiastic."

Yale said he has had many proud achievements at LSC, like seeing an advisee become successful. "The secondary Ed program it's easy to see them...I can think of at least two of my students who after teaching two or three years in social studies became vice principals of principles."

Yale plans to keep busy and enjoy his many hobbies like woodworking, managing a wood lot, reading, traveling, and most importantly enjoying his freedom with his wife.

"I'd like to do some research," he said. "One of the troubles of working at Lyndon is there isn't as much time to do scholarly work, because you have your four classes and all the committees and stuff like that. I'd like to pursue some of the projects I started but wasn't able to make much progress on."

Rape an issue, even at LSC

By Regina Rooney

Every 21 hours, someone on a college campus is raped.

Does this affect Lyndon State, in safe, pristine, peaceful northern Vermont? Absolutely, but according to Charles Lacaille, Director of Public Safety, if there are sexual crimes being committed on campus they are not being reported. Just because these crimes are not on the books, however, doesn't mean they are not happening. Residence Hall Director Jon Cheney said he knows of four alcohol-related incidents just this year at LSC.

Zoe Gascon, the Domestic and Sexual Violence Project Coordinator at Umbrella, pointed out that women between the ages of 18 and 24 are the most likely candidates for sexual assault. Located in St. Johnsbury, Umbrella serves as a support agency

for those affected by sexual and domestic violence. All of their services are confidential—they do not have caller ID—and can be anonymous if the caller chooses. Umbrella's workers are not there to tell a victim what to do; rather, they can present the survivor with possible options and offer support.

Henekis Stoddard of Umbrella oversees the PEACE program (Peer Educators Advocating for Choice and Empowerment), a joint venture between the agency and LSC. It is staffed mainly by LSC fieldwork and internship students. PEACE works to better educate the college about issues surrounding sexual assault. They also can serve as advocates, and like Umbrella, their services are completely confidential.

There are many misconceptions floating around about sexual assault. One major one is that most rapes are

perpetrated by unknown assailants. According to Gascon, "You're at much more danger from someone you know. That stranger concept is absolutely a myth." She added that the official State of Vermont statistic is that 97 percent of sex crimes occur in cases where the victim knows the perpetrator; often, it is someone the victim trusts.

Another common untruth is that women are the only victims. While Gascon stated that one in four women will undergo some form of sexual assault, so will one in every six men. She cautioned that it is difficult to get accurate statistics due to victims' reluctance to come forward but it is clear that men are also at risk.

Unfortunately, according to Gascon, victims frequently don't

See RAPE on page 7a

Final examination hints and techniques

By Nicholas R. Plante

Preparing

- Study Routine
- Proper Eat and Sleep
- Arrive Early.

As the school year ends and summer approaches final exams stand as barriers to overcome. Final exams, or any exam brings stress and anxiety to students, but by properly preparing and using proven testing techniques exam results will improve.

One of the most direct ways to improve the outcome of final exams is properly preparing for them. Having a regular study habit where a little information is absorbed at a time can improve exam scores. Cramming the night before adds increased stress and has proven to be less effective. Start studying at least one week before the exam, or better yet the first day of the course.

The evening before the exam should entail a good night's sleep, and the morning (or period before the exam) should entail a light meal. A light meal is recommended because a large heavy meal may cause drowsiness, and when taking exams you want to be as alert as possible. Exercise and physical fitness also helps keep the mind alert.

Arrive at least 15 minutes before to the test site. Pick out a spot that is comfortable and quiet, and use the restroom before beginning the exam. Preparing is important, but how you take the exam is also important.

Techniques

- Read Questions/Directions
- Avoid Changing Answers
- Answer all the Questions
- Check Your Work
- Use all Allotted Time

Experts have shown that certain testing techniques can help improve scores on exams.

First read all directions that apply to the questions thoroughly, and next read the questions thoroughly so the main ideas are understood.

After all directions and questions are understood, answer the questions you know off the top of your head first, and skip over the questions that you don't know until later. As you progress through the rest of the exam the answers may appear in other questions, or you may suddenly remember the answers. Don't question if the first answer you wrote is right, because the first instinct is usually the best answer.

Answer all questions even if the answer is a guess. Providing an answer is better than leaving blanks, and guesses have a chance of being right.

Don't rush! If extra test time remains and you have answered all the questions, re-check your work. If you answered essay questions, check for proper grammar and spelling.

By properly preparing and using proven testing techniques, good exam grades will be easier to attain.

Rape

continued from page 6

label their experiences as rape, even when that is what occurred. "Often if it happens to you, you don't think of it as rape," she said. The victim may feel that what happened is their fault, that they should have said no, that they could have stopped it. However, that is never the case. Rape is never the fault of the victim.

"It is always because the perpetrator chooses to use that violence," she said. "Victims can't prevent rape...No matter what you do, you might not be able to protect yourself."

However, there are some precautions students can take. Since many rapes involve alcohol, never accept a

drink from a person you don't trust, and never leave your drink unattended where someone might slip something into it. Gascon urges students to network with friends and watch out for one another, and Cheney agreed.

"Students should have a buddy system and never leave each other," he said. Both Cheney and Gascon cited new students as being particularly at risk, in part because of the vulnerability of being in a new place. Anyone at any time can be a victim, and so it is important to be aware.

If you are the victim of a sexual crime, do not stay silent. Tell a friend, your RA, or your RHD. If

you choose, you can fill out reports with the school and with the police, and the RHDs will put you in touch with medical and counseling help. If you would like to reach Umbrella or PEACE, call 748-8645, or call the hospital's 24-hour hotline at 748-8141 and ask for an Umbrella advocate.

Cheney said he hopes for increased student involvement with Umbrella and PEACE, and improved safety all around. "College is where students grow the most and a crime like this is really damaging...There needs to be more awareness so there is less fear and more knowledge..."

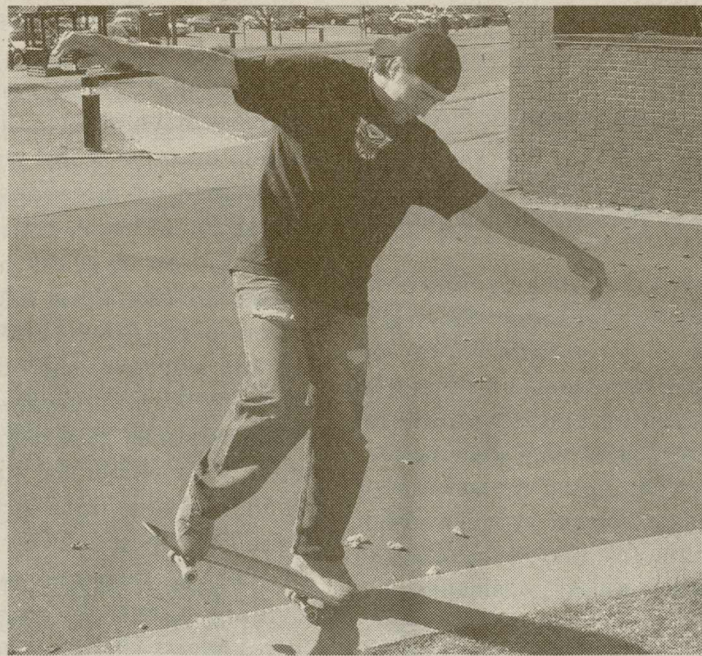
Skateboarder gets a chance to help next generation

Caleb Byerly was only a teenager when the South Royalton recreation committee asked him to be the head of a new building project they had underway. The area was having trouble with skateboarders, and had decided to build a skate park in an effort to keep them off the public streets. They found Byerly to be the ring-leader of the boarding group, and wanted his opinion in what kind of equipment should be put in.

"When they approached me I was in my adolescence," says Byerly. "So I was kinda against everything. But they wanted to build a skate park, so I went along with it." The park project started back in 1995, but the park itself was not erected until 2001.

"It took five years to build between legal processes and paperwork, but once we got the permits it took no time to build. We ordered the material

through Zero Gravity, which had the parts already made. We just had to set it up."



Byerly first started skateboarding when he was only 10 years old and living in Arizona. It was there that he tried boarding for the first time.

"When I was growing up, I looked at skaters and

was afraid of them. But once I became a skater it was like being let into another culture."

Kids from Byerly's school would meet after class to practice boarding. Byerly was invited by a friend to come one afternoon, and this was how he met the guy who would teach him how to skate-

board.

"He was a heavy kid, but he was so good at everything he did. His name was also Kaleb, but it was spelled with a K. I think that was why he wanted to help me; because we had the same name."

Byerly spent years practicing with his friends at school and when the tricks became harder Kaleb was there to help him.

"After a few times of falling on your face you just want to give up, but he kept telling me I could do it, so I would try again."

Today Byerly is still actively skateboarding, though he now sees it as more of a hobby than a way of life.

"I can't do it as much now because I have a job and school, both of which I'm very involved in. Skateboarding just has to take a backseat to it right now."

First year experience

By Nicole Miner

Every year a new shipment of freshmen arrive on campus; wide eyed and completely lost to the life of a college student. Many programs are in place to help new students with their adjustment to the Lyndon State Community, but until now there was something missing, and that something was Donna Keely.

Donna Keely, Director of First Year Experience, comes to Lyndon State College from Washington State University, where she was the Assistant Director of New Students Programs for three and a half years. Before that Keely studied at Michigan State, where she discovered her passion for working with new students and participating in orientation.

While at Michigan State, Keely had an opportunity to meet Bill Clinton, four times. After her first meeting with Bill Clinton Keely decided to change her major to Political Science.

"It is such an amazing experience to be in the presence of a

United States President despite your personal views and opinions of the individual holding office," said Keely.

Being an Orientation leader at Michigan State made Keely look at her future in a different light. After graduation she missed the life on campus and returned to Michigan State where she was encouraged to seek out a Masters Degree in Student Affairs, which she did. "And didn't look back."

Keely is working to bring together all of the programs aimed at helping freshmen adjust. Soar, Peer net, Orientation, and Introduction to Academic Community are all in place to make the adjustment easier on freshman, but all of the programs were separate and not coordinated in a way that made them work together. Right now her job consists mostly of "investigating and researching," said Keely.

Aside from loving her work with freshman, Keely likes doing a wide variety of hobbies. She enjoys scrap booking and stamping, sailing, golfing, gardening, watching sports, coaching dance and cheerleading.

THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice at Lyndon State College

Lyndonville, VT

September 22, 2005 Volume 52, Number 1

FREE!

Radio Station Threatened

By: Nicole Miner

At 11:15 p.m. on the night of September 17, 2005, the radio station received two unwelcome guests. Down at the radio station everything was going as it should; they had a lot of requests coming in from both on campus students and "townies." One of the phone calls put the DJs on alert when a caller fired off a gun and said, "Can you hear that?"

The caller had been requesting to hear "Slayer," a rather hard-core band. A short time after this request, two men walked into the radio station and started complaining about the selection of "Slayer" the DJs had. One of the men was covered in "biker tattoos" up and down his arm and had visible track marks. Jeremy Lacey, Program Director for the radio station, showed the more outspoken of the men what he had from the band in order to keep him calm. At one point the other students in the station began talking to the man while Lacey was able to phone Public Safety. Once Public Safety arrived, they asked for everyone's student ID cards, the two

See Threatened Page 5.

New Smoking Ban By: Megan Renaud

Effective at the beginning of September, bars and restaurants are no longer allowed to let their customers smoke inside. This ban has a split reaction from LSC students. One student suggested it was a bad idea. As a smoker he felt burdened by having to get up and leave in the middle of a conversation to smoke outside. Michelle Graves, a freshman in the pre-professional physical therapy major and Tyler Cleverley, a freshman in the computer science major, support the new smoking ban. Graves, a smoker herself, admits it looks better for the bar or restaurant if people aren't smoking in it. She thinks it makes it smell bad and look junky. Cleverley added that it's easier to find a place to hangout now because he doesn't have to worry about his severe allergies acting up from the smoke.

Due to the smoking ban, The Packing House, located in downtown Lyndon, added a gated outside area for smokers. A twelve-foot wooden gate to prevent minors from sneaking in surrounds the smoking area. The area is equipped with picnic tables for sitting and a bouncer to prevent any trouble. "It works really well," said Isaac Marsh, a bouncer at the bar and a recent graduate of LSC. Phat Cat's, located on Depot Street, went for the less expensive route and simply propped their door open with a gallon miller light pail. Customers can climb the stairs and watch traffic and passerby's as they light up.



the library, the gazebo in front of Vail.

Graves doesn't feel bad about their being no smoking indoors, even in below freezing temperatures. She understands the college's desire to keep the campus clean and healthy. She adds with a laugh, "Don't smoke if you don't want to get your hands cold."

LSC students made some suggestions on keeping the campus environment clean, yet easier on smokers. They suggest building another gazebo outside the dining hall, adding more butt cans around campus to keep the cigarettes off the ground, and designating another smoking area in the middle of campus with a roof and three walls.

Smokers are reminded to stay at least twenty-five feet from the building and off the walkways. This will prevent blocking students trying to get in and out of the buildings.

LSC has a smoking ban as well. There is no smoking inside anywhere on campus, including the Residence Halls. There are several designated smoking areas outside for smokers to sit, including the overhang outside of



LSC Student to Compete for Miss USA

By: Amanda Wozniak

Amanda L. Gilman an LSC student from Danville, VT competed in the Miss Vermont pageant this past weekend at the Sheraton Hotel in Burlington and won. She was crowned Miss Vermont USA 2006 and will go on to compete in the national competition for Miss USA. By winning this competition she was awarded a prize package worth over \$60,000. She will also receive free air fare to and from the national pageant. While there she will receive free lodging, meals, a wardrobe for the pageant, photographs and more.

"I have always wanted to compete at Miss USA as Miss Vermont USA and I finally got my chance!" said Gilman. She also said that Miss Vermont has not made it into the top 15

at nationals in over 20 years and hasn't been crowned Miss USA in 50 years. She then said, "I'm making the lofty goal to be the first finalist since the 1980s."

The details for the Miss USA pageant will not be announced until January; however there is rumor that it will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada. Since the competition is owned by NBC television and Donald Trump it will be nationally televised live in the spring of 2006 (possibly mid April). The definite date and location will be announced in January. There will also be a Miss USA Fear Factor that will air directly before the pageant that she could possibly compete in this as well.

HARD NEWS...

Successful elections

By: Mary Wheeler

Over 240 Lyndon State College students voted in the 2005-2006 Student Government Senator elections which were held September 12-14.

The annual elections surpassed the 10% voting mark needed to make the elections valid with over 15% of the school population voting. These yearly election entitles three individuals from each class to represent and voice student concerns or issues that arise to the rest of the Senate and Administration.

According the SGA constitution, to become a senator students must obtain a petition from the student government office and have 50 current LSC students sign it. Three days of elections are held where students vote for whom they feel would best represent the school or write-in someone who didn't fill out the petition who is just as qualified. This year there were five open positions which were all filled by people of various class standings.

Throughout the school year, those elected into senate positions are responsible for several things. They are expected to attend all weekly meetings, sit

on various campus-wide and faculty committees, perform office hours in the Student Government office, and become strong leaders in the LSC community.

"It is absolutely fantastic that so many students took it upon themselves to make a change at LSC," said Brandon Buckley, one of the Student Government Association's advisors. "With so many students voting, it shows how dedicated they are to see that their voices will be heard."

Senate meetings are held every Thursday at 7:00 p.m. in T202. Anybody is welcome to attend these meetings and express their issues or concerns about the school or update the Senate on various community activities or events. The next Senate meeting will be on September 22 in the same location.

This year's newly elected senators are; Angel Jackson, Jeremy Lacey, James Hunt, Lars Christensen, Jarius Boyd, Scott Julian, Kyle St. John, Thomas Savino, Chris Coleman, Jason Coppa, Christopher Ferguson, Tyler Cleverly, Anthony Skelton, Hayley Lapoint, Gardner Jackson, Angelina Phelps and Michael Mansmann.

LSC Celebrates Convocation

By: Mary Wheeler and Emily Hale

Over 500 freshman, upper classmen, faculty, and staff joined together to celebrate Lyndon State College's annual convocation on September 1st at 12:30 p.m. in the Alexander Twilight Theater.

Convocation is a formal presentation and induction of the entering students to the school where several important people introduce themselves, introduce the new faculty and speak about the school and the opportunities that await students. Convocation marks the official start to the academic year and this year marked Lyndon State College's 95th academic year. This year's freshman class is the third largest in the history at Lyndon State. Meteorology, business, education and television studies being the most popular.

The ceremony began with the entrance of bagpipers and the procession of the faculty, many of them wearing their caps and gowns. Donna Dalton, Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, opened up Convocation with an introduction of herself and the others who would speak at the ceremony.

Carol Moore, President of Lyndon State College, welcomed all new and returning students to the campus for the school year. "You have the ability to transform your life," Moore said. "Seize that opportunity, create your own destiny and do great things."

The Student Body President, Amanda Ruckdeschel spoke about her experience at college when she first attended and encouraged students to "get involved." She read a passage from her journal when she first started school about how she was nervous, anxious, and filled with so many emotions. She came to the conclusion that she needed to get involved with the college community to get to know people and broaden her horizons. After Ruckdeschel spoke, Moore accepted the new students on behalf of Lyndon State College.

Standing from the seats in the auditorium, the students at Convocation, along with the faculty, followed Leo Seigny, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, while he recited the LSC promise with the students and faculty repeating the words, "I will." The closing of the ceremony ended with the recession of the bagpipers and the faculty, and a dismissal of the students.

"This was a very unifying experience," Mustafah Greene, a freshman said. "The convocation was good because Lyndon promotes the idea of community and this further enhanced that message."

Restricted Entrance By: Valerie Pierce

On the LSC campus it is a common sight to see people using their ID cards. They are used everywhere. Students use them to pay for meals, to take materials out of the library, and to get into the Residence Halls. In the last two years students have been able to use their cards to enter any of the Residence Halls on campus. This semester that has changed; students are only allowed to access their own Residence Hall building.

The use of ID cards has been limited in this way due to safety reasons. Director of Student Life, Jonathan Davis pointed out that when only those students that live in the building have access to it the risk of vandalism and thefts will be lowered.

When vandalism does occur, the person responsible must pay for the damages. If the person is not found, the suite or building must pay for it. The vandalized lounge last year in the Wheelock building is an example of what can happen when full access is allowed.

Math major, Candi Curran, thinks that it is "inconvenient." Meteorology major, Jaci Del Viscovo, objects to not being able to get into other Residence Halls. Del Viscovo thinks "It is a good idea in theory, but not in practice" She believes that it will keep non residents out but will be a hindrance in the winter.

English major, Jen Parizo doesn't think that only being able to get into the building you live in is a good idea. Parizo said that the call boxes, which are outside the Residence Halls, do not work right See Restricted Page 8.

News Around Campus...

New Chess Club

By: Nicholas R. Plante

Timothy Lavigne, a LSC Meteorology major, has begun the process to create a chess club at LSC. "The constitution that governs our club is tabled for the next house meeting and it is possibly scheduled to be voted for approval as well," Lavigne said.

Following the projected approval of the club, and attaining club status,

Lavigne said he would seek funds from the LSC student senate. "The lack of chess here made me want to do it. Every place needs the nerdiest club on campus," Lavigne said. He envisioned his club to be successful in providing its members with entertainment and teaching them useful skills. "I want to form a chess club because it is a learning based game. Playing chess develops critical thinking, a survival skill in today's society."

The club is still in the organizing stages and no tournaments or trips are planned, but Lavigne said, "If at all possible, yes I'd like to do that [plan trips and tournaments] but my funds request will not be focused on that."

Lavigne said 12 people were already signed up to join and the club requires no qualifications. "I have people joining that don't even know how to play chess and I will teach them."

Start of LSC Intramural Sports

By: Jonny Butt

The LSC intramural program is divided into two sections of fall and spring sports. All full-time and part-time students enrolled in at least 3 credits are eligible. Sue Henry is the head of the department. Anyone interested in signing up can do so in the Intramural Office (G 102) during the

given entry period.

There will be constant information and updates posted throughout the campus and on LSC e-mail. Up to date information for events throughout the semester can be found on the IM board (the glass case outside the Stannard Gym).

This program expects sportsmanship and good team spirit to be of the highest importance when in progress. For those who would like to have their name or team name etched in LSC history there are awards for each sport. Winning

teams and individual winners will receive a Championship T-shirt or other award. Players and teams will be recognized on the IM board. Any players or teams displaying extraordinary sportsmanship and continual championships may become eligible for the Intramural Hall of Fame. A plaque would be displayed on the IM board when an achievement like this is obtained.

Public Safety Cracks Down on Parking Violations

By: Keith Whitcomb

LSC's Department of Public Safety plans to stay consistent this year with ticketing parking violators. The types of violations being targeted especially are not having parking permits, parking in fire lanes and parking in handicapped parking spots.

Most of the violators are on-campus students who are parking in Stonehenge. To curb this problem, the gates leading into Stonehenge have been shut and locked. For students using their cars to load personal items into their Residence Hall, the

gates can be unlocked by calling Public Safety.

Director of Public Safety, Charles Lacillade, estimated that 35-40 tickets have been issued this year. Once a ticket has been issued a second offense will sometimes result in a phone call asking to correct the violation. After that violators will be towed.

Good News for Photography Students

By: Joshua James Gervais

LSC's darkroom has been replaced with a larger, more efficient facility. The previous darkroom had problems with ventilation that effected nearby classrooms. The entrance to the darkroom would allow light to leak into the work area, which can ruin a picture in the process of developing. The new darkroom is properly ventilated and sports a new light tight entrance. The room's layout has been improved and new developing equipment added.

The darkroom is located in the Harvey Academic Center. Bob McCann teaches LSC's two photography courses. Photography student David Giambarrresi said that the new darkroom is "freaking awesome."

Security Cameras in the Computer Labs

By: Seth Lathrop

According to Mike Dente, who has worked in the Information Technology office for several years, it turns out that the small grey box hanging from the ceiling in LAC 408 is actually a small video camera, being monitored by the people at the Public Safety office. "They've been there for at least seven years," said Mr. Dente, "probably since at least '95."

Mr. Dente also mentioned that all of the main computer labs, including LAC 411, 409, and the 24-hour lab, have these small cameras mounted on their ceilings. Although they are not positioned to watch over the computers, they are recording students while they enter and leave the labs.

Computerized Classroom

By: Valerie Pierce

The classroom above our LSC Theater has been undergoing a change during the last nine months. It has become the "Smart Classroom" filled with technology from the projector to the lights. There was a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 15, 2005.

Donna Dalton, Dean of Academic & Student Affairs welcomed everybody and then introduced the finished room. Carol Moore, President of LSC gave thanks to the many committees that worked together to make the room a reality. "This will be a popular room for presentations," Moore said. There was an electronic ribbon cutting; the ribbon was on the projection screen in the front of the room. The sound was turned up so there was a dramatic noise to accompany the cutting.

Professor Nolan Atkins, of the Meteorology Department, introduced all of the new technology that now occupies the room. There are two displays, a flat screen TV and a large projection screen. The computer is connected to the internet, a microphone and a cordless mouse. The TV and projector can be used separately or together. When the projector is turned off the screen retracts into the ceiling out of the way.

The computer is attached to many things. The lights can be controlled by a button on the computer. The volume for the speakers on the ceiling is controlled here as well. There is a DVD player and a VCR player that can be chosen to show through the screens. If the professor wants to use their personal laptop there is a place for that to be connected.

On the computer there is a virtual blackboard that teachers will find useful while teaching their classes. There is no actual blackboard in the room. The mouse can be used to draw on the screen and point out main points of interest.

All of this technology is controlled from the small podium that stands in the front of the room. It is ready to be used by the LSC community. Check it out and if you have classes in this room enjoy it.

Security on Campus

By: Megan Renaud

LSC sustains a full-time public safety department. The officers patrol the entire campus by foot and vehicle 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Public Safety Office is located by the main entrance to the Vail Center. Located in the office is a work station where a 24 hour emergency phone line is manned. This guarantees security access to all students at any time of the day. The phone number is 626-6452.

Along with work study students there are three officers who split shifts throughout the day. Alex Allen works from 4 p.m. to midnight, Paul Nadeau works from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Brian Michaud works from midnight to 8 a.m.. Charles Lacaillade, the director of public safety, can be found during the morning hours. Charles Forrest, an officer at LSC is also in the National Guard. He is deployed but will return to LSC upon his arrival home.

The public safety department offers many support services for LSC. They include:

- Motor vehicle parking registration
- Assistance with vehicle problems such as flat tires
- Assistance in lockouts
- A lost-and-found location
- Student identification cards
- Student escort services
- 24 hour patrol of campus
- Access to campus facilities
- Locking campus facilities
- Defensive driving courses
- Education and training for security issues

The student escort is available upon request and

involves officers walking students, male or female, to or from class to vehicles at all hours of the day.

The public safety office would like to remind students that they are responsible for their personal belongings. Students are reminded to always keep the residence hall doors locked and to engrave expensive personal belongings such as televisions, radios, and cameras. These engraving instruments can be picked up from the public safety office.

The LSC safety emergency line is 1111. This number can be dialed from any telephone on campus. It can also be dialed from any emergency call box on campus. These boxes are located outside the breezeway doors of the residence halls, in the Stonehenge and Vail parking lots, and on the Brown House. LSC also has emergency phones. By picking these phone up you will be directly connected to the public safety office. These emergency telephones are located in the breezeway leading to the pool, in the men's and women's locker rooms, near the fitness center, on both floors of LAC, on the first floor of the library, in the connector between Vail and the science wing, and in the HAC lobby.

The public safety office encourages prompt reporting of all crimes and college violations. To make a report, call the office or make a report in person. All officers will take appropriate actions to ensure the safety of the campus. In the event of dangerous criminal behavior, LSC will post security alerts on the entrances of campus buildings and to e-mail addresses.

To learn more about the public safety office log on to the LSC website at www.lsc.vsc.edu and connect to the public safety home page. To ask questions or to meet the officers visit the office during regular business hours: Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m..

Nature Risk

By: Nicholas R. Plante

Jon Fitch, retired LSC professor of Psychology and Education, experienced the danger of nature on the 1st of September 2005, causing firefighters to respond to the Moose River during his kayak trip.

Fitch, accompanied by three friends from Pennsylvania, decided to kayak the Moose River starting at Concord VT and ending at East St. Johnsbury VT. The trouble started when Fitch noticed what appeared to be his friend, Todd Frysinger's kayak over turned. Fitch, after failing to locate his friend called for assistance. The St. Johnsbury and Concord fire departments responded and Frysinger was found safe. The firefighters deployed a rescue line and successfully retrieved Frysinger. No injuries were reported.

Fitch referred to the relief and excitement he experienced after reuniting with his fellow kayaker and friend. "My retirement is certainly a jubilation to date, however, I feel no need to create other, 'panic situations' even if they end in jubilation," Fitch said. "I wouldn't do it again under these conditions." The river had risen because of the rains associated with Hurricane Katrina, so the original trip was postponed until the afternoon when it appeared to be safe, but the incident still happened.

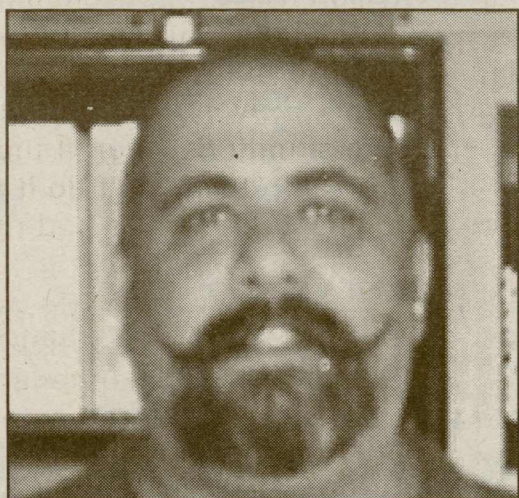
Fitch said that the entire team had extensive kayaking experience, "I have been kayaking and white water rafting for well over thirty years. As a matter of fact Dave Geis [Fitch's friend kayaking with the team] the patriarch of the kayaking group, and I rafted as graduate students on the well known Youghiogheny River in southern PA!"

Threatened Continued From Page 1.

men from town began to complain were very confrontational with... the officers. One man slammed a door in the face of an officer, hitting him with it.

After they left an All Points Bulletin was put out on them for assault. They are still being looked for. After the incident all night shows were cancelled until further notice. Both of the doors leading to the radio station are required to remain locked and no one is allowed in unless the DJ knows them. The outside door to Vail that leads into the radio station does not lock. Anyone can walk in at any time of the day or night. That makes any part of Vail open to anyone as well.

It has been suggested that the wall of the radio station that encloses it from the mailroom hallway could be replaced with safety glass. This would ensure that the DJs could see who was approaching before they actually entered the radio station. The same suggested was made for the wall in between the station and the hallway leading to the production office. None of the DJs know who is approaching until they are actually in the studio and that poses a big problem.



New Philosophy Prof.

By: Jake Mardin

David Johnston is the new philosophy professor, replacing Heather Keith. He comes to LSC looking forward to teaching students about philosophy. He enjoys teaching philosophy because "You can do almost anything. I enjoy the interaction with students that philosophy creates," says Johnston.

Johnston was born and raised in Flint, MI, which he still visits family occasionally. He attended Denison College, a small school of about 2200 students in Grandville, OH, where he majored in philosophy and cinema. He took a philosophy class in his first semester and enjoyed it. He decided to major in the subject in his junior year after seeing that philosophy majors enjoyed success after graduation.

Johnston enjoys the writings of philosophers such as Maurice Merleau-Ponty and Friedrich Nietzsche, as well as others who were active in phenomenology and existentialism. But he also enjoys other philosophers and takes a liking to whoever he happens to be studying at the time.

The cinema major says his favorite director is Stanley Kubrick. "Dr. Strangelove; Or, How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb is a fun movie to watch," says Johnston. He also enjoys the works of directors Orson Welles, Alfred Hitchcock, Martin Scorsese, and Francis Ford Coppola. As for the Matrix series, which are rich in philosophical content, he says he enjoyed the first one more than the two sequels. "The first one was interesting philosophically and cinematically," says Johnston.

Johnston enjoys listening to a wide range of music, from rock bands like Pink Floyd and the Doors to folk music such as Peter, Paul, and Mary. He also has many hobbies, including learning to play the banjo and playing golf and bridge. He also hopes to return to the slopes this winter and ski.

Rita Bole Has Problems

By: Amanda Gigliotti

5

Minor problems have developed in the Rita Bole Complex. "It is not unusual to have problems in a new building," Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administration, said about the problems which occurred. There were four things that needed to be addressed: locks on doors, faulty Carbon monoxide monitors, hot rooms and a plumbing leak. Additionally, there was vandalism that occurred in the elevator.

The problem with the locks, with both the room doors and suite doors, was traced to the manufacturers. It was found that there was a spring in the door lock unit that was defective. To fix this problem, either a part of the locks will be replaced or all of the locks themselves, according to Jonathan Davis, Director of Student Life.

A second problem was that Carbon monoxide detectors have gone off randomly in the building as well. New units have been ordered to prevent this from happening in the future, said Davis.

As far as with the rooms themselves, "some rooms have been hot, so fans have been ordered to help with the problem," said Hamilton. The problem can be traced to a "building sweat," where moisture is retained and occurred during construction, as Davis explained.

A third issue was a small water leak in Building B which was caused by a fitting not properly installed, as Hamilton explains. The leak went from the third floor down. Ceiling tiles still need to be replaced and also some pieces of sheet rock, where the water leaked into. This is planned to be repaired during the Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks, according to Davis.

On another note, vandalism has been reported in the elevator on the control buttons, where one was pushed too far in and the elevator couldn't be operated. To prevent this from happening again, Davis said a vandal proof button will be installed, which cannot be pushed in as far.

Karyn Chapin, an English major, lives in the Rita Bole Complex. She mentioned that the locks on the doors get stuck and that it takes longer to get into her room. Chapin talked about how a Carbon monoxide monitor went off in the suite below her and how she woke up because of the alarms that had sounded. This happened around the third week of classes. Firemen came to help with the problem. She hopes that these problems will be fixed in the future.

Davis said "This year is a year that we'll learn a lot about the building."

Where did they go?

By: Amanda Gigliotti

Summer is over and classes have started again. Students, staff and faculty have come back to campus at Lyndon State College to find some changes have been made. According to Tracy Sherbrook, Staff assistant to the Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, there are at least fourteen offices that have been moved around campus.

The new Rita Bole Complex is one place where new offices can now be found. On the first floor, one can find the entire Academic and Residential Life staff, such as Donna Dalton, Dean of Academic and Student Affairs and Jonathan Davis, Director of Student Life. The second floor houses the entire full time faculty for the Social Science Department.

In Vail 467 is the new office for part time English professors. Part time math and mete-

orology professors now occupy room Vail 439, which is in the small wing by the elevator. Vail 417, in the Psychology Wing, is where both part time education and psychology professors can be found.

Two other places, on campus, are the Library and the Harvey Academic Center or HAC. The Exercise Science part time faculty can now be found in LAC 305, which is located in the library. The offices of the part time professors who specialize in foreign language, humanities, and social science can be found in HAC. A final place that has changed is HAC 114. This is where the Digital and Graphic Arts and Fine and Performing Arts part time professors now have their offices. For further information on how to find another office, please contact the Switchboard.

Editorials...

Mean Students

By: Nicole Miner

I am appalled at the blatant disregard for authority and leadership that has gripped this campus. Everywhere I turn a student is breaking policy or showing disrespect to the LSC community; by throwing cigarette butts on the ground, hanging out in the court yard obviously drunk, and screaming at the top of their lungs when they know it is quiet hours. What is it about authority that turns people so sour? Has everyone forgotten that life after college is all about working for someone in charge and trying to work their way up in a company of some sorts?

If students continue with this attitude after they graduate, they will not make it far in the real world. There will always be someone to answer to, someone giving out orders and making rules. Students have it easy on this campus. It is a "three strikes your out" college, and in the work place, it is one strike and you are out. There is no opportunity to test your boundaries, because the first time you place your toe over the line it is all done. I had an internship over the summer and it was difficult to work for someone in a more professional atmosphere. When you have a professional job you cannot just take days off when you feel like it, you have to be more mature and more responsible.

For the last three semesters I have held leadership roles on this campus. For the 2004-05 school year I was a Resident Assistant. I took on the job to help out with my tuition and because I love to help out and I strive in my everyday life to try and help others. It was not about "busting" people or getting anyone in trouble, but people would distance themselves from me, people I had known before I was a RA. What is it about authority that scares people so much? The only reason anyone would have to be afraid is if they were doing something wrong, and then how can you be upset at being caught doing something you know you shouldn't be doing?

I hear people say, "I am an adult, treat me like one." The thing is, an adult would not do stupid things to get themselves in trouble, and if they did, they would own up to it and take the consequences. Coming to college does automatically make one an adult, it is a status which each individual must earn. By being more considerate of the people on this campus and taking care to be respectful in the court yard the atmosphere of this campus can be changed drastically. When you are standing next to a cigarette butt can, put your filter in it when you are done smoking. Don't leave your trash on the ground, put it in the appropriate receptacle and be mindful of people who are studying or trying to sleep when you are having a good time. If these simple things are done as they should be, then students will have earned the title of adult and be that much closer to being able to handle the outside world once they are in it.

The Critic Wants You!

The Critic is looking for motivated students to fill the following positions.

Cartoonist
Games Creator
Entertainment Reporter
Photographers
Writers

If you are interested in working for the critic please contact:

Nicole Miner, Editor at
Critic, LSC Box 7915 or Ext. 6689 or email
Nicole.Miner@lsc.vsc.edu

Critic Staff

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Tabitha Fitzgerald

Joshua Gervais

Amanda Gilman

Emily Hale

Sara Morehouse

Matt Vercillo

Mary Wheeler

Keith Whitcomb

Amanda Wozniak

Seth Lathrop

Photographer

Amy Churchill

Daniel Phelps

Cartoonist

Jade Chaloux

Letter Policy

The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

Letters

The Critic

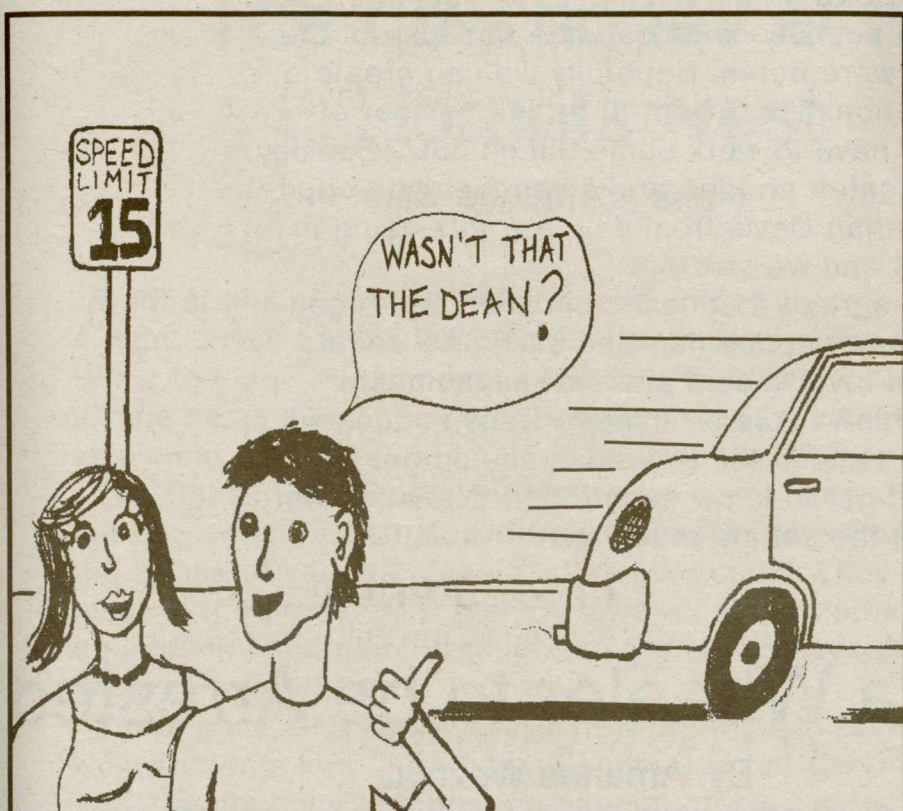
LSC Box 7951

Lyndonville, VT 05851

Fun Page...

Calendar of Events September 26-October 10

Wednesday	28	Movie- Madagascar	9 p.m. AT
Friday	30	Movie- The Ghost Hunter	8 p.m. ATT
Sept. 30 - Oct. 1		Family Weekend	All day, various locations
Sunday	2	Movie- Madagascar	9 p.m. ATT
Wednesday	5	Movie- Dark Water	9 p.m. ATT
Friday	7	Fall break, no classes	



Word Search

J L K I O S L H P B H S C L K N D R R M
 F R C Q B I O P R M A R L C D X L E O B
 W M J P B M Q O G R L O D K G L O S G P
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 BAILEY
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 CLASSES
 CLASSROOMS
 CREVECOEUR
 DEADLINES
 HAC
 HALLWAYS
 HOMEWORK
 LAC
 LIBRARY
 NOTEBOOKS
 OFFICES
 PAPERS

POLAND
 PROFESSORS
 RESEARCH
 RESIDENTHALL
 RITABOLE
 ROGERS
 SCHWAG
 SCISSORS
 SNACKBAR
 STAIRS
 STAPLER
 TESTS
 VAIL
 WHEELOCK
 WHITELAW
 WORK

Breaking News...

CAB Concerns By: Nick Plante

The recent LSC student senate meeting became a forum concerning CAB. Student senators, CAB advisors and the club's executive board members participated in the expression of issues hindering the clubs' operations.

Jeremy Lacey, LSC student senator assigned to CAB, opened the discussion. He presented the senate with concerns that came to his attention by CAB members, Lacey said, "There are some concerns I have regarding CAB; some of those concerns are constitutional issues that have been brought to my attention ... some of the concerns have been brought to my attention concerning personal difference between the advisors of CAB and members and executive board of CAB ... There's just crummy tension happening between the two groups; between the students and the advisors, and that can't continue." Lacey went on to say that the CAB constitution calls for the advisors to be elected by the executive board of CAB, and the current operations are creating complaints from CAB members who are threatening to quit the club.

Amanda Ruckdeschel, LSC Student Government Association President, answered Lacey's question by stating the new CAB advisors were appointed by high administration and administration had the power to do so. Ruckdeschel provided background information of the reasons for the appointed advisors. She stated miscommunication and the lack of organization involved with scheduling campus events were reasons for the appointment of CAB's new advisors. "With their own advisor nothing got done ... You got lemons, you make lemonade. These people are your new advisors, work with them. You still have the most money of any club on campus ... let them co-advise," said Ruckdeschel. CAB sponsors large scale activities and entertainment for the entire campus. They receive about \$95,000 per year to put on events which come from 50 percent of the student activities fee paid by each student at the beginning of every semester.

CAB originally operated with a student board controlling the events and an advisor chosen by the board. This year two assigned advisors, hired by the administration, will have more responsibility and control. The new CAB will have two new advisors Kate Murphy and Brandon Buckley. Their new titles are student life assistants and they will have a greater responsibility with operations according to Davis.

Carmella Reiger, CAB's house representative, said, "The reason why there is so much tension is Brandon [Buckley]. He has a lot of problems with us [CAB]. The way he oversees things has not been proper, and in e-mails to our president he was rude. They're taking control and we want to be part of that." CAB advisor Murphy said, "We were put in a very awkward position. We do not want to take responsibility from you [students]. However we've been put in a position where things aren't happening." Murphy described events scheduled that would have been canceled if she and Buckley hadn't stepped in. Adam Tracy, LSC student senator and Vice President of CAB pointed out that he as well as other members of the CAB executive board were on campus and visible but never contacted about any concerns regarding CAB. Tracy said, "We didn't receive one word about anything. No e-mails,

phone calls, nothing." Melissa Sturtevant, CAB president, pointed out she did receive one message from Davis and everything asked of Davis was complied with in a timely manner.

To relieve the tension Ruckdeschel proposed having only one of the appointed advisor work with CAB, and Murphy agreed that could be a possibility with Davis' approval.

Murphy said, "After our group meeting I wanted to walk into Jonathan Davis office and tell him where to shove CAB, because of the tension. Communication is an issue all the way down to who is coming. I would like to see them get ahead of themselves. They should be planning for next semester instead of still planning this semester. We experienced hostility since day one because of the position we were put in. Hopefully we can create a working relationship. I want to be the advisor of CAB but we have to work some things out." Buckley said, "I presented an idea and I was met with opposition. Jonathan Davis from day one was going to give us CAB and we said no."

Sturtevant agreed that communication and organizing were major concerns. She said CAB should have student involvement and that all members should be able to vote on things. Tracy suggested that to ease tension the two sides should get together and get to know each other. No votes were taken during the senate meeting.

Donna Wheeler to be Arrested

By: Amanda Wozniak

Donna Wheeler has been charged with aiding and abetting the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA), with the intent to help area residents with muscular dystrophy. She is to be arrested on September 29, 2005 at 10:00am in her office and taken to the maximum-appreciation prison site at the Black Bear Tavern & Grille. Upon arrival to the prison site Donna will have a mug shot taken, eat "jailhouse grub", and meet people from the community.

In order to be released from prison she must post a minimum of 600 dollars bail. The bail money will send a child with muscular dystrophy to

one of the MDA's 90 summer camp sessions. When her goal is reached she will be returned to work with a "clean record" and sincere thanks from the MDA. Donations will be accepted from Donna in Vail 330 to help her reach her goal until the time of her arrest. If her bail is reached before her arrest she will spend one hour at the prison site before being released in order to raise more than her minimum bail.

This will make a difference in the fight against muscular dystrophy, benefiting local health care as well as worldwide research efforts. Donations are needed, neuromuscular diseases affect more than a million Americans.

Restricted Continued From Page 2.

now except to call public safety for emergencies.

Director of Security, Charles Lacaillade set the card system up this semester in this way to keep everyone safe. Lacaillade mentioned that when visiting friends it would be a good idea to call first to have them meet you at the door to let you in. If people look suspicious or are non-students be careful of letting them into the building.

Road Reconstruction Near LSC

By: Kelly Colby

For the last few weeks, construction noises have filled the air at LSC. The sounds that have even been audible on campus are part of an effort to reconstruct the Back Center Road, one of the common entry points to the LSC campus. The work began late in August with construction teams doing culvert work along the road. According to Site Manager, Steve Martin, the completion is "tentatively scheduled for the end of the month," though he was careful to point out that any construction job is difficult to gauge.

As opposed to a standard resurfacing the road will, in this case, be entirely reconstructed. The old road is currently being torn up and moved by truck to a secondary site on College Road, just above Lyndon Institute, where it is being crushed and mixed with ledge. The mixture is then returned to the Back Center Road site to build up the road before resurfacing. This is all part of an attempt to repair frost damage and prevent it from occurring in the future. Until completion, Back Center Road will only be open to through traffic in the evening hours.

The new honey at the Hornets Nest

By: Sarah Donaghy

A lot of students have noticed, and voiced a complaint or two, against the snack bar for the increase that's been seen in many of the items. While to many it may seem exorbitant to spend a dollar and thirty cents for the same sized soda you can get in the hall way for a dollar, but the snack bar itself has little control over how much they ticket each item for.

The Snack Bar recently went through some official changes, as well as internal ones. An employee from Vermont State College can analyzed the prices of various items sold by our school. They were actually selling most of the products at a much lower cost than other schools and, for equality in meal plans through out the college system they were told to raise certain prices.

There have also been several new products to be found in the Nest. Now students can find frozen dinners and full sized boxes of cereal. Why the changes to more commercial grocery store approach to sales? Jen Knight, who does all she can to keep the Snack Bar running smoothly and with the best quality available said, "It's something that we planned on basically because some of the new dorms have kitchen."

This has been a big change from some of the other dorms who are equipped with refrigerators and sinks for their kitchens. These easy made meals are set up as a way for students who don't often get off campus to get food. Jen says, smiling as usual, "[It's] so they can have things [to eat] after we're closed and before we're open." This is a particularly useful idea as winter snow sets in and getting off of campus becomes more and more difficult for its students.

The Oil Issue

By: Sarah Donaghy

With the recent spike in oil prices we are all feeling the affects of even minor travel on our bank accounts. As students our budgets have had to be manipulated to serve the needs of our vehicles and, for many off campus students, to fill out tanks with heating oil. As tough as that can be for an individual, the college has the responsibility of serving the needs of its many students and departments.

Our school's budget did have some handle on our current financial issue before prices took the leap it has in the past several weeks, but the increase they were expecting wasn't as large as the increase we have experienced due to the recent problems caused by weather conditions.

"Like most organizations, we didn't quite realize the magnitude [of this year's increase]," said Wayne Hamilton. Prices for oil heating are locked in until bidding opens again in the spring of 2006, but, unfortunately, the school didn't have that option for fueling the vehicles that keep our campus going on a daily basis.

Vehicles such as the mail van and security's and maintenances cars and trucks are paying at the pump like everyone else. There is little we can do about these costs, although the campus is trying. VIP programs

Lyndon State Community Joins Together In Time of Need

By: Mary Wheeler

While the tragedy in New Orleans may be hundreds of miles away, this didn't deter the Lyndon State College community from taking action for a much needed cause.

At 6:00 p.m. (September 8th) in the Lyndon State College Student Center, students, faculty and staff joined together for a Hurricane Katrina block party. At the block party donations of money, non perishable food items, clothing, and personal hygiene items were collected and will be sent to benefit the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Throughout this week there were various drop-off locations for these items, including in the Student Center and in front of the Alexander Twilight Theater.

The event, which was sponsored by the Campus Activities Board, was originally planned to be in the Stonehenge Courtyard, but due to the weather was moved into the Student Center. Once there people continued to donate. An abundance of food, beverages, and music provided by WWLR 91.5 created the theme for the party and was well attended by the student body.

"This has been a huge inspirational experience and everything is going to such a great cause," said Brandon Buckley, LSC Student Life Assistant for Student Activities and Residence Hall Director for Whitelaw/Crevecour. "It's amazing seeing our community come together in time of crisis."

Another component of the party was the "penny wars" between the lower campus (Rita Role Complex, Wheelock, and The Gray House,) and the upper campus, (Stonehenge.) The idea was the more pennies each teams had the better, but if any paper money got into the jars, the team would lose points. While the penny wars didn't happen until Friday, all those pennies will also be sent to aid hurricane victims. Members of the Lyndon State College Rugby Team collected over \$300 in donations for the relief.

"The Lyndon State College Rugby Club is proud to support this event in the name of humanity and compassion for our fellow citizens who have suffered terrible losses as a result of Hurricane Katrina," said Jeremy Lacey, Treasurer of the club. The president of CAB, Melissa Sturtevant, said the event "has been a great way to help our community bond, and it's for a great cause."

Oil Continued From Page 9.

are helping join conferences from all over the state so no travel is needed. Carpooling is being encouraged when VIP is not a viable option. Even athletics teams are doing their share by traveling in rented buses, bringing down travel costs as well as increasing safety.

Looking toward the future, the school has requested Capital Appropriation from the state college system for repairs to some of the older, less efficient buildings. If we can make heating more efficient and heat loss less drastic then less oil would have to be consumed. However, Hamilton said that he was not certain when or if money would come to Lyndon State for these repairs but it's something that could help in the years of unstable markets yet to come.

How will this affect the average student? Well, it might not. The oil costs are just a small percentage of our budget, which will be readjusted in December. If there is any change in tuition at all it would probably be slight and won't come until the Fall of 2006, most likely in the form of increased room charges for campus students.

For now, though, the campus is just being careful with its fuel usage and watching, and hoping, for a downward trend to hit the pumps.

Moye on Sabbatical

By: Keith Whitcomb

Professor of English, Richard Moye, will be on sabbatical for the Fall 2005/Spring 2006 semesters. During this time he will be working on two things. The first being converting his doctoral dissertation into a book. The subject of the 600 page manuscript is a 19th century art critic by the name of Walter Pater. "There are two essential aspects to this project. One is to catch up on about 15 years of research in the field. The second is to rework the original manuscript to make it publishable into a book." Moye said.

During the Spring, Moye plans to spend his time designing courses to fit in with the revisions made to the Department of English and Philosophy. The curriculum has been reworked to offer more comprehensive view on culture as opposed to literary periods and genres. "Establishing a truly viable and substantive cultural studies program requires a fundamental rethinking and redesign of methodology and preparation in most if not all courses [...]" Moye said. He plans on designing a set of theme base courses that examine parts of 19th century British literature and culture.

He will be working primarily from home using the resources he has there. Moye will also need to go to Dartmouth and other places to gather the necessary materials. He also hopes to make a trip to Italy in order to examine first hand the work Pater criticized.

Moye expects that completing these two projects will take him longer than the two semesters he has on sabbatical, although the sabbatical itself is still for two semesters.

Local businesses battle gas prices

By: Tabitha Fitzgerald

Local businesses have taken a hit since gas went up. With prices at an all time high people are spending more money on gas than they ever have before. This in turn is affecting local businesses such as restaurants, movie theaters and even small car repair shops. The more money people spend on gas the less they spend on small local businesses.

"When money gets tight, going out is the last thing on people's list of expenses," says Pete Journeymen, the owner of Pete's Just Good Food in Orleans, Vermont. After a year and a half of being open, Pete's was doing well, but since gas prices were raised above \$3.00 a gallon the restaurant has taken a hard hit. Lately weeknights have been "dead". With fairs and the start of school Journeymen had expected business to slow, but then gas prices soared and business never picked back up. With the approach of leaf season, Journeymen still believes he can recover from the last few weeks. His ultimate hope is that gas prices fall.

While restaurants seem to be the hardest hit, movie theaters are feeling the effects of purse tightening. "I use to see quite a few older people, especially on Saturday nights, but the numbers have been way down lately," says Sarah Cowen, an employee at Waterfront Cinemas in Newport. She expected business to slow with the start of school but not as much as it has. There has been a dramatic decrease of people coming to the nightly showings. Weekend matinees are still a crowd bringer but

recently the movie goers have been in the age bracket of 11-16. "Adults may be trying to pay attention to their financial situation, but I think kids will always find their way to the movies," Cowen comments.

Novelties aren't the only businesses that have seen a dramatic drop in clientele. Even auto shops have taken a hit now that gas prices have skyrocketed. "Were not exactly busy," comments Nick Taylor, the son of Helen and Francis Taylor, owners of Taylor's Automotive in Barton. The last month the only real business that has been coming in is repairs that need to be done. "More people are changing their own oil and doing the smaller repairs that they have traditionally brought here. If they can do it themselves why pay for it? Especially now that prices have gone up," said Taylor. Fuel for cars isn't the only thing that went up when oil prices went up, all petroleum based products went up as well. Freon for cars is one of the products that Taylor's uses a lot through the summer. In 2004 it cost the business \$60 for a 50lb container, now it costs them close to \$400 for the same container. The price of motor oil has almost doubled over the summer. With product prices up, people are not fixing small problems. Small shops like Taylor's Automotive are feeling the pressure. Taylor remarks, "I don't think we will ever see the drop in business that many other small stores and such have seen around here. We may slow down but people will always need their cars so we will always have jobs," said Taylor.

www.lyndonstate.edu/nelsong/Kenya.

Janet Bennion, Associate professor of Sociology and Anthropology, also has artwork in the exhibit. Her work is of a man shushing. Her work was inspired by her tall guide, Simon, during her first year visiting the Masai in Kenya. His message was "To have reverence for others way of life, you must listen." In describing how she felt about her work, Bennion replied "When I look at it, it reminds me to put my ego in check and recognize the beauty of other cultures."

The exhibit also features works of eight other faculty members. Their pieces range from photography to painting to wood creations.



Faculty Art Show

By: Amanda Gigliotti

The Fourth Annual Faculty exhibit has opened in the gallery of the Harvey Academic Center at Lyndon State College. The exhibit will run from September 9th to the 26th with the gallery open Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm.

One faculty member that has work in the exhibit is Library Director, Garet Nelson. His works are of a woman, a tree and a man with a camel on a beach. Nelson said that the camel picture is his favorite because "it has a lot going for it. It's exotic to see a camel on a beach when you'd relate them to the desert." These three pictures were taken when he was in Kenya and later done with digital media. While describing what inspires his work, Nelson said, "for me, a lot of it's luck and just being there." More of Nelson's photographs can be found on his website:

TOP 10 COLLEGES FOR ANGLING UNDERGRADS (and their parents!)

Fly Rod & Reel

THE EXCITEMENT OF FLY-FISHING

LSC Among Nation's Top Fly-Fishing Schools

By: Jake Mardin

Good news for anglers around campus as LSC has been named one of the top-10 fly-fishing colleges in the July/October issue of Fly Rod & Reel magazine. Notable fishing spots in the area that are mentioned in the article are Lake Willoughby and Clyde River in Newport.

Other top-10 colleges include Dartmouth College, State University of New York-Plattsburgh, and Montana State University, which is located only a short drive from Yellowstone National Park.

According to John Hall, from Vermont Fish & Wildlife, says location plays an important factor in Vermont's excellent fishing opportunities. "Vermont is fortunate of being located within the St. Lawrence, Connecticut, and Hudson River drainages," Hall said. That allows fish from areas such as the Great Lakes area to make their way into Vermont waters.

There is no shortage of places to cast a line as Vermont has 808 lakes and ponds as well as more than 7000 miles of rivers and streams, offering over 20

species of cold and warm-water fish.

Some LSC students have already had successful catches. Senior Elementary Education major Megan Renaud caught a large land-locked salmon on the Clyde River. "It was just under 8.5 pounds and it was a native, the biggest native believed to be caught on the Clyde," said Renaud.

If you want to try your hand at fly-fishing, there are several locations to check out. Along with Lake Willoughby and the Clyde River, the Connecticut River is filled with brook and rainbow trout. Trout can also be found in Maidstone Lake.

If you are planning to go fishing, remember to have a fishing license, which can be purchased by residents and non-residents for \$20 and \$41, respectively. Licenses can be bought at any local sporting shop. The closest one to campus is the Village Sports Shop on Route 5 in Lyndonville. Information can be found on the Fish & Wildlife website at www.vtfishandwildlife.com or by calling (802) 241-3700.

Student Spotlight: Paul Crilly

By: Megan renaud

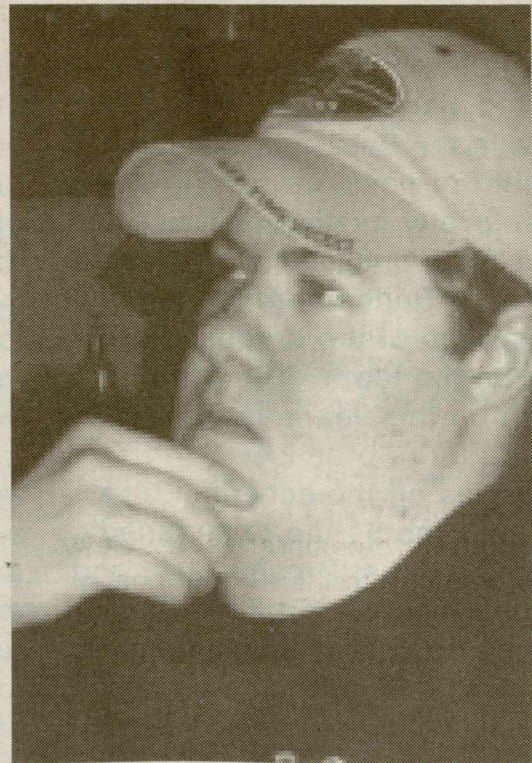
Paul Crilly is a man of many faces. You may have seen him on the television, broadcasting the local news here at LSC. You may have seen him walking across campus with that calm smile he wears everywhere, including the checkout line at Price Chopper. Many have seen him supporting LSC during sporting events. But, do you really know Paul Crilly?

He resides in Lyndonville where he enjoys hanging out with his friends at the Packing House, a favorite local hangout of LSC students. On the weekend he favors playing video games and hosting social gatherings. Crilly also enjoys music. When he speaks about his electric guitar his fingers twirl as if longing to be strumming the strings and not resting on his lap.

Over the summer Crilly and some friends attended a Boston Red Sox game, his favorite team. He bragged about the game as he held out his small camera phone held in a leather pouch. He sports a grin as a picture of the Boston field pops up on his phone. The trip to Boston to see the Red Sox marked a first time for Crilly.

Crilly describes himself as, "shy, charismatic, and humorous." When he doesn't know someone he's shy, but as he warms up his true self come out.

Crilly, originally from Springfield, still takes that hour and a half drive down I-91 south to see his family and



roots that still live in Springfield. Crilly's family is one member short as his father was recently sent overseas to Afghanistan to help fight the war against terrorism. A sense of pride in his father floods Crilly's face as he talks about him supporting his country.

Crilly chose LSC because he thinks it has the best TV program in the country. Crilly is a senior in the television broadcasting major. When he graduates he plans on getting a job out of the area. "This time next year I could be in Hastings Nebraska," he said. He is happy about the work he is doing because he has learned a lot about our country and the government that runs it. However, in a few years his true desire is to be a sports broadcaster.

Sports...

Women's Soccer Preview By: Jake Mardin

The Hornets are looking for another championship as the new season begins. The team is off to an excellent start at 5-0 after beating Presque Isle and Fort Kent over the weekend.

The team will be led by captains Meg Skidmore, Becky Armstrong, and Christine Riendeau. Last year, Skidmore was the Conference Rookie of the Year and was named to the All-Conference 1st Team. Armstrong and Riendeau were also named to the All-Conference Team.

There are six freshman on this years team, and all are playing well, said Coach Miles Etter. "The skill level is very high," said Etter. Among the freshmen is foward Kelly Warren, who was named a Sunrise Conference Player of the Week after scoring 7 goals in the first two games of the season. "Kelly

Warren is one of the best players I've seen in 4 years," said Etter.

Coach Etter has high expectations for the team, who have shown good team chemistry from the start and are playing well together and are continuing to improve. "We have a pretty strong team. Our biggest challenge is to stay healthy and fit and continue to grow," said Etter. Many players will play more than one position in the event of injuries or similar circumstances. During the Hesser game, Etter was able to move players around and experiment.

Etter is looking for good performances from all players; he says they are all doing a good job in their roles. "I expect us to compete and make a run at another championship," said Etter.

Coach: Miles Etter, 4th year
Last years record: 9-5-4;
2nd in conference.
Won Sunrise Conference
Tournament Championship
Roster:

Name	Position	Clas
Kari Johnson	Mid	Fr.
Brooke Everton	Mid	So.
Corin Hall	K/Mid.	Fr.
Angelina Phelps	Defense	So.
Kelly Warren	Foward	Fr
Jess Perron	Defense	Sr.
Krystie Cultrera	Mid.	Fr
Meg Skidmore	Foward	So.
Amy Tetu	Mid.	So.
Becky Armstrong	Foward	Jr.
Autumn Fahey	Foward	Jr.
Erica Kelleher	K/Defense	Fr.
Jessica Conver	Mid.	Fr
Christine Riendeau	Mid.	Sr.

Men's Soccer Preview By: Jake Mardin

This years Hornets team is looking to continue on their improvement over the past couple of seasons. The Hornets finished 9-8-1 last year after accumulating only two victories the year before.

Captains Rob Carey, Matthew Kelly, and Anthony Moccia; who were named the All-Conference team last season will lead the team. Carey is one of the top players in the conference and has excellent field vision. Kelly will solidify the defense in the back, and Moccia will play a number of positions when needed. "He can pretty much play those spots with effectiveness," said Coach Peter Kellaway. Sophomore Isaac Fortin is also one of the hardest working players on the team. There are also 12 freshmen on this year's team who have shown a lot of promise.

Notable games on the schedule took place this weekend as the team faced University of Maine at Presque Isle and University of Maine at Fort Kent. They won the game against Presque Isle 2-1 and won in overtime against Fort Kent 3-2 to even out their record at 3-3. The team hadn't been able to beat Fort Kent the past two seasons. The team will

face Green Mountain College on Oct. 6, a team that has a good program this year. "In order to improve we need to beat tough schools," says Kellaway.

Kellaway expects a good performance from his team this year. "We have a legitimate chance to win the conference and get regional bids," says Kellaway. "We're going to be hungry every game." Also, some teams are in disarray and aren't as strong as they were before. "The time is right for Lyndon to take advantage," says Kellaway. The program has come a long way thanks to playing better teams and stepping up to the challenge, as well as good recruiting.

The team is playing good together and is becoming a family unit. Recently, the team donated money, made from their fundraiser at the Caledonia county fair, to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The teamwork will be the key to the team's success. Kellaway wants to create awareness for the team and is determined to put a good program out on the field. "We appreciate the support and look forward to an exciting season," says Kellaway.

Coach: Peter Kellaway
Last year's record: 9-8-1, lost in
Conference Semifinals

Name	Position	Class
Andrew Parish	Forward	Fr.
Darren Roberge	Mid	Fr.
Curtis Colby	Defense	So.
Isaac Fortin	Defense	So.
Anthony Moccia	Defense	Jr.
Rob Carey	Mid	Jr.
Matthew Kelly	Defense	Sr.
Jeff Giroux	Keeper	Fr.
Michael Thatcher	Mid	So.
Tony McAloon	Mid	Jr.
Kyle Hessler	Forward	Fr.
Christopher Cowan	Mid	Fr.
Rodney Mercier	Mid	So.
Patrick Bradley	Defense	Fr.
Romualdo Palmare	Mid	Fr.
Heath Richmond	Mid	Fr.
John Schwerdtle	Forward	Fr.
Dean Hale	Forward	Fr.
Derek Sanborn	Mid	Fr.
Matthew Scagnell	Defense	Fr.
Graduation losses: Nick Rowe, Jake Toof, John Hamilton, Barry Sykes, Adam Bartman, Matt Clark		

Dudley Bell Tennis Center & Museum

By: Joshua James Gervais

There has been more construction on campus this summer than just the final work on the Rita Bole Complex. One project has been the construction of a small building near the LSC tennis courts. The building con-

tains only one room. The building is going to be a museum for tennis and a home for the LSC tennis program.

On October 8th the building will be dedicated to Dudley Bell, a member of LSC Athletics Hall of Fame who has done much for LSC athletics. Bell dedicated 25 years to

improving LSC athletics, coaching multiple sports and serving as the chairman of the Physical Education Department and Director of Athletics. The building will be called the Dudley Bell Tennis Center & Museum in honor of Bell's contribution to the school.

THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice at Lyndon State College

Lyndonville, VT

October 8, 2005 Volume 52, Number 2

FREE!

Lyndonville's Puking Pig

By Tabitha Fitzgerald

A small little park located at a Y in the road holds a Grecian work of art. The little park in Lyndon is dismissed as people drive by, but the Boar Fountain that is the park's theme is much more than a "Puking Pig." This fountain is a historical landmark, a town symbol, and in other places a good luck charm.

Upon setting foot in the park the Fountain stands before you looking towards the town. Down the road Lyndon Institute goes about its daily business. All around it people drive to work and truckers go along their routes. People hurry along, but the fountain remains steady and still. The stone at the base of the fountain is marred by time. There are scars along the surface of the Boar as well. The years of weather have made their mark as well as the abuse the Boar has seen. It has been subject to the Saint Johnsbury- Lyndon football games, pranks and neglect. The park is in visible need of restoration. Yet this famous local landmark stays just as strong as ever, watching the happening of its town.

Due to the parks location it is in a difficult place to get to. The Boars visitors are rare and far between. The most common admiration that the fountain gets is from the view of a car window as it passes by. Everyone in the town knows where it is but too few have ever walked up and touched the worn stone.

The Lyndon Boar Fountain is one of six original castings. Luther Harris brought it to Lyndon in 1912. The land was then donated to

Theodore N. Vail to be made into a town park. Along with the Boar Fountain, a cannon, two lion statues and two benches (one is now missing), were placed in the park for the enjoyment of everyone. The Boar's cousins are located all over the world. The original is in the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, Italy. Other castings made from the original mold are placed in the Metropolitan Museum in NYC and the Country Club Plaza in Kansas City. The statues have been made in Bronze, steel and plaster and the well loved Boar is beginning to pop up in many other places as well. Replicas have been found in Nova Scotia, Canada, Tokyo, Japan and Los Vegas, Nevada.

The Lyndon Boar fountain will celebrate its centennial in seven years. It has spent the last 93 years looking upon Lyndonville. With the good graces of nature, and a little help from the town, it will continue to grace many more generations with its historically charming presence.



Photographed By: Jade Chaloux

Burke Season Pass

By Matt Vercillo

Every year many students purchase season passes to Burke Mountain. With an all new high-speed quad chairlift, Burke is taking an aggressive approach to the '05/'06 season. In the past, the student pass had included access to Jay Peak as well as Burke. This year, Jay Peak will not be included in the package. For those who can't resist the pristine glades of Jay, their pass will be available for \$219

for students. Jay Peak boasts the most natural snowfall of any resort in Vermont.

The student Burke pass will still cost \$199, but now includes 50 percent off at Cannon Mountain, Dartmouth Skiway, and Balsams Wilderness. Pass holders also receive discounts at Burke retail and rental shops, as well as discounts at many local businesses.

Professor Attends Rally

By Kelly Colby

A professor from LSC was in attendance at the recent anti-war rally in Washington D.C. David Beliles, professor of English, was one of over 100,000 people who met in the capital to protest the war in Iraq. The rally, which took place on Sept. 24, 25 and 26, attracted a wide variety of activists including Cindy Sheehan who lost her son in Iraq. Both Jesse Jackson and Sheehan were guest speakers at the rally.

Beliles, who was there with the group United for Peace and Justice, said that a number of activist groups were in attendance, with a variety of concerns about the current administration in the White House. The rally began at the Ellipse behind the White House. The Ellipse was packed with people for "as far as the eye can see ahead of you and as far as the eye can see behind you" said Beliles, who felt that the attendance number was likely closer to 400,000 than 100,000. Many

of the protest organizers also believe the number in attendance was far higher than 100,000 figure accepted by the Capitol Police. The rally ended with a march to the front of the White House. "This was the first time in ten years that a permit had been issued to march in front of the White House," said Beliles.

Beliles, who felt that the rally was an important means to make peoples' voices heard about the war in Iraq, has other problems with the Bush administration as well. He said that the Bush administration has had a "ruinous effect on American society, as shown by recent events like the hurricane and the growing disparity between the rich and the poor." Of the war in Iraq itself he said, "I support our troops, I just don't want to see any more of them die for this horrible policy mistake."

House Members Rescind SPJ Trip Funding

By Keith Whitcomb JR.

The House of Student Representatives voted to pass a motion rescinding money given to the Society of Professional Journalism for a trip to a journalism convention in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The trip had been in the planning stages since the summer of 2005. The SPJ had the budget for the trip planned out prior to the house meeting. The motion to rescind had been made on the grounds that only four people would be going to the trip and that the SPJ had not done enough fund raising on their own.

In their own defense, the SPJ acknowledged that their clubs fund raising skills need work and they had proposed using the money to go to a regional convention. They also said that another reason for only sending four people was that many of their members belong to

the college TV station and that Channel Seven News cannot spare many people to send on a trip.

The meeting to discuss the SPJ's trip funds had originally been scheduled as an emergency house meeting in which House members were notified in an Email. That meeting was cancelled due to a power outage that occurred Thursday, September 29th. The meeting that took place in T-202 on Wednesday October 5th was a joint meeting.

After the meeting about the SPJ the House conducted its regular business. Tyler Cleverly gave a presentation on the Journey of Hope, an AIDS awareness program run out of Camp Heartland. Cleverly asked for a donation out of the LSC general fund to help bring the Journey of Hope speakers to Lyndon State College. The motion See SPJ Page 2.

Hard News...

LSC Community Retreat

By Nicholas R. Plante

Roughly 72 members of the LSC community gathered at Burke Mountain last Friday for the second annual College wide Retreat, sponsored by the Deans Advisement Board (DAB).

LSC administration, faculty, and students attended the retreat inside the Sherburne Base Lodge at Burke Mountain.

LSC President, Carol Moore, explained the retreat's theme, "Status Quo Has to Go," as a motto taken from the Girl Scouts. The Girl Scouts used the motto to transform their group in order to be prepared for the millennium. Moore said, "We're [LSC] thinking in terms of previous generations, and because of our competitive environment we must think about all things and make them better ... we have to understand why certain trends happen. We'll use it [the motto] to take LSC from good to great."

A majority of the retreat was dedicated to group work where members brainstormed the top five things to change at LSC. The nine groups identified similar areas to change. They identified a need for increased communication throughout the college community. Some suggested creating a central calendar, accessible to all members, highlighting campus events. Several groups suggested aid for student advisors. Some said a student advisor's handbook should be developed. Other ideas focused on

part-time faculty integration. Deb Hale, LSC's registrar, said, "With part-time faculty we should increase their training or do training period in some cases. House them all in one area, so students can find them and contact them. Integrate them within the LSC community and get them to use the LSC e-mail so we can communicate with them." Only one part-time faculty member attended the retreat along with thirteen other administrative people who teach part time. Other areas identified for change were campus activities on the weekends and campus appearance.

A number of "Quick Wins," or areas proposed for improvements, at last year's retreat have not been completed, Moore pointed out. One area, "to offer ten on-line courses in the summer session," almost met its goal by offering seven courses, Mike Dente, Assistant Chief Technical Officer, said.

In the morning the group highlighted accomplishments since last year. The accomplishments included better student morale and class participation; which some tied to this year's convocation and the LSC promise. Other improvements included campus appearance, quality of faculty and staff, and improved structural changes.

The list of changes would be made public and sent back to the retreat participants in a few weeks, Moore said. The list will first be approved by DAB as well as faculty and staff.

Faculty Attend Retreat

By Mary Wheeler

While many were attending the campus wide retreat, the campus was not left unattended. Three faculty members from the registrar's office attended the retreat as well as one from the business office, leaving both offices well-staffed and open to students throughout the day.

The Academic and Student Affairs office was completely run by work-study students as everyone from this department attended. The office was open until 12:30 and was closed from this point on until the faculty returned.

Information Technologies' Reaction To Wind Storm

By Joshua James Gervias

A recent wind storm caused blackouts at LSC and in surrounding areas. In addition to the inconvenience of losing power there is a danger to electronics from a variety of sources during a storm.

Anthony Santacaterina, Desktop Support Technician, said that the new Rita Bole building was the Information Technologies Department's first concern when preparing for the storm. The building's sys-

tems hadn't been exposed to such conditions before and IT was uncertain how it would hold up. The Rita Bole building and LSC campus as a whole fared well through the storm with only a few minor problems.

LSC's servers, the computers which hold the LSC webpage and email, have their own generators and are regularly backed up. The school's wireless internet and

See Wind Storm Page 7

Forty Six Years and Still Going Strong

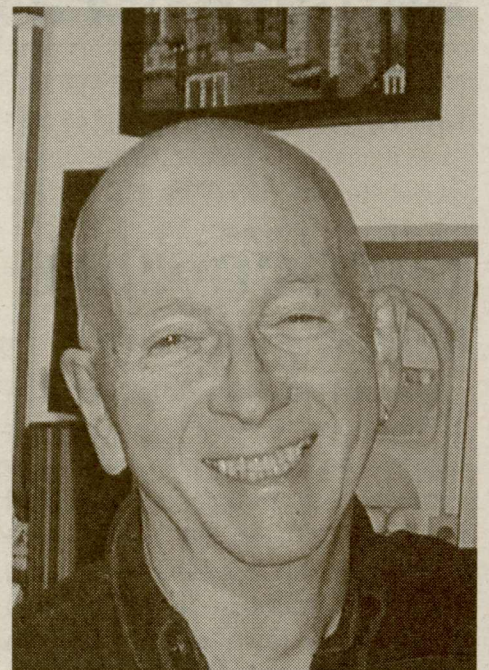
By Amanda Gigliotti

Dorian McGowan, professor of Art, started at Lyndon State College in 1959, making this his forty-sixth year teaching at LSC. Since he was in the first grade, McGowan knew he wanted to be an art teacher. He remembers taking an art class everyday that cost him seventy-five cents per lesson. Later everything fell into place. He studied art education at Pratt Institute and got his masters at Columbia. He taught three years at a high school in Filmore New York before coming to Lyndon State. He believes that every college teacher should have at least three to four years of teaching High School before taking on College teaching. This way the teacher has more empathy with the students.

He remembers that when he started at LSC, there were older faculty who were cold and unaccepting towards new faculty. Now, there are meetings and get-togethers for new faculty members so they can meet others that they will be working with. Also, another difference was that there was only the old Vail mansion, as compared to the buildings that are here now.

When looking back over the years, McGowan remembers the Christmas parties in the old Vail mansion. Here "Christmas seemed like Christmas" because there were presents for the faculty children and people were together. This was a most memorable experience for him. On the flip side, he'd like to forget the years and years of searching for a place to teach at Lyndon. He's taught in the yellow house, down from the Vail parking lot which is now a daycare; and also in a cellar with a dirt floor in the old Vail Mansion. He credits Robert Michaud, a former business manager, for finding him the space he is in now.

A story that stands out in his mind is one of a former Psychology professor. This person worked at the college for two to three years and claimed to have a doctorate with Freudian training. When they were called away to Chicago, a



Photographed By: Jade Chaloux

background check was done and it was discovered that the person was an impostor with no degree in the field.

One may have had McGowan as a teacher since he's taught "just about everything in art." In the past, he's offered courses in stained glass, ceramics and silver. However, these classes had to be stopped because there was concern about students' health due to the chemicals that were being used. Among the classes he teaches are calligraphy, drawing and puppetry.

It's the students that McGowan likes most about working at Lyndon. He likes that they are not "art school" students, that they are looking for new things that there's "a freshness" about them. He also likes people who are outgoing and friendly towards him.

When walking around campus, one can see various works of his. One exhibit is of portraits of students from Sudan, which can be seen in the theater lobby. In the meeting room of the Rita Bole Complex McGowan's paintings will be displayed. Also, the library has been a source of McGowan's exhibits for years. "I love the library. I couldn't live a day without it. They have a wonderful staff and collection", he remarked.

In regards to retirement, McGowan said, "I haven't planned on it. If I did, then I'd probably be doing the same thing I am now."

SPJ continued from page one...

to table the proposal until the next meeting was made and passed. SkillsUSA and the Chess club put forth their constitutions to be passed by the House. The motion to table SkillsUSA was made and passed pending more information. The Chess club's constitution was also tabled owing to grammatical

errors and questionable wording. A proposal to receive \$3000 for the construction of a mini ramp for skateboarders on campus was also made. The motion was passed with the stipulation that care of the ramp would go into the Lyndon State Daggers constitution.

Editorials...

Letter to the Editor

My name is Tom McCann and I'm a senior at Middlebury College. I'm also a sports editor for our campus newspaper, but this is only moderately relevant to the reason that I am contacting you. I'm actually a proud member of the most intense and 'enthusiastic' intramural sports team at Middlebury. We call ourselves the Xi Omega Great White Yaks (Middlebury has no 'Greek life' that's just the name we gave ourselves), and we don't mess around. In the three years of our franchise, we have created all-purpose t-shirts used for soccer, softball jerseys, butt-shorts, custom-made replica NHL jerseys for our hockey team and custom-made sweatshirts are on the way. Aside from this, we also compete in broomball, a winter sport you may or may not be familiar with. We're taking the 'intramural' level of competition to the next level and will be hosting our own Fall semi-formal in a month or so, not to mention fundraisers for no other reason than simply to be an intramural team that

raises funds. The reason that I'm getting in touch with you is to ask if there is an intramural team at Lyndon State that is as dedicated as us (I doubt it, but there might be one close) that might be interested in some inter-collegiate intramural competition in soccer before it gets cold, and then other sports as the weather changes. I'm thinking we could come to Lyndon State for a game, and then have your team come here, with the ultimate goal maybe an 'Inter-collegiate intramural Invitational' here at Middlebury in the spring. I know that the campus newspaper is always very in tune with the 'campus pulse' so I have copied them in on this in case they have some ideas or other insight. If you want to forward my email to someone else who might be interested, or let me know who else I might be able to contact, that would be great too. We're nuts, and we're looking for other campus' who might have a group of kids who are just as crazy as us.
Tom McCann

Binge Drinking

By Nicole Miner

As on every campus world wide, binge drinking is a concern for LSC. Students are away from home and learning how to live on their own. Granted, I have seen many students make poor choices, but the choices are theirs to make. As a fourth year student I have seen more binge drinking than I care to remember. It is a big concern that I have for the students on this campus.

Binge drinking is defined as drinking five or more alcoholic beverages in a row for guys, and four or more in a row for ladies. I normally see binge drinking before students go out to the local bars. "Pre-gaming" they call it. Alcoholic beverages are expensive when purchased at the bar, so students get alcohol before going out and then go to the bar already drunk.

According to the U.S. Department

of Health and Human Services, binge drinkers are eight times more like to fall behind in their studies, injure themselves and cause damage. This is because binge drinking prevents a person's brain from receiving all the oxygen it needs to have in order to function. Your brain practically shuts down, resulting in black outs, vomiting, or the disruption of one's breathing. When these symptoms occur alcohol poisoning may be taking place. Anyone experiencing these symptoms should seek medical care.

I know that students believe they "know their limits," I hear this on a daily basis. I have also witnessed people going to the hospital to have their stomach pumped due to binge drinking. If you or anyone you know has a problem with binge drinking visit www.health.org and seek help.

Letter Policy: The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter.

The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

Letters
The Critic
LSC Box 7951
Lyndonville, VT 05851

Students Seek Education Outside of Classroom

By Nicole Miner

The weekend of September 30 through October 2, 2005 a group of students who are enrolled in the Literary Non-fiction class took a trip to Concord Ma. Alan Boye, Professor of English, lead these students on a trip through history.

Leaving Friday afternoon, the group stayed at the Motel 6 in Tewksbury Ma and spent their days walking around Concord and visiting historical sites. Their destinations included the Old Manse, built by William Emerson, and inhabited by Nathaniel Hawthorne. The Emerson house, Walden Pond and the Sleepy Hollow cemetery were also on their agenda. The group has been studying Hawthorne, Emerson and Thoreau in class; reading such books as "Walden; or, Life in the Woods" by Henry David Thoreau, and "Nature," an essay written by Ralph Waldo Emerson. The trip to Concord was "my most memorable scholastic experience," Myles Hacking said.

The trip was not only education but also, "A great way to get to know your class and learn at the same time," Madeleine Kingston said. Dave Lapham said that, apart from learning about each other, they experienced an "awakening to nature and our history."



Top Row: Joshua Damaso, Alan Boye, Sarah Bengston, Madeleine Kingston, Sara Morehouse, Seth Doran, Crystal James, Myles Hacking, Amanda Wozniak, Nicole Miner, Steve Lavoie. Seated: Keith Whitcomb, Dave Lapham, Mike Campbell.

LSC Promise Bracelets

Local businesses extend services to LSC community

By Emily Hale

Originally intended for freshman and returning students at Lyndon State College, the LSC promise bands have reached out and affected the entire LSC community. Instead of only the students who took the LSC Promise at convocation, the rest of LSC students are now included in many area businesses discounts.

Many local businesses in the Lyndonville area including Hoagie's Pizza & Pasta, Bagel Depot in Lyndonville, Asia Restaurant, Olympia Sports, Broadstreet Redemption, Fabrictown, Flowerland, Natural to a Tee, Shear Sensations, Hi-boy, Sean B's, and Green Mountain Books have all taken part in the LSC bracelet efforts and offered discounts at their establishments. The businesses are offering LSC students discounts ranging from 5% to 15% off their

purchases. These discounts will be good throughout the entire academic year.

After questioning businesses about their involvement with the LSC promise bracelets, the majority of them said that they are offering these discounts to all LSC students with an ID card. Both the ID card and the bracelet are accepted at the majority of the businesses.

Leo Sevigny, Elaine Turner, and some students from the college went around Lyndonville and St. Johnsbury asking businesses to participate by offering discounts to students who recited the LSC Promise at convocation. The Promise states that everyone will try to become involved with the college community, not be prejudice and judge everyone fairly, and keep an open mind to learn as much as possible.

New technology at LSC

By Sarah Donaghy

VIP (or Video over Internet Protocol) is one of the newest technological achievements to come to Lyndon State College recently, and it couldn't have come at a more profitable time. While the machine itself came to the college last year, it is just now showing its benefits.

VIP allows the college to stream video and sound over the internet to reserved sites so others with this device, such as committee members and teachers from around the state can take place in conferences with faculty at Lyndon State. While anyone can watch the discussion on these web sites, only those with

the access to the VIP machines can interact.

This may seem like a great new way to get in touch with friends and family but that's not what it is used for. The VIP system must be set up ahead of time and is to be used only by college sponsored events. However, if used often enough, it can save substantial amounts on transportation, cutting down on gas costs and danger of crashes. Mark Majors, of information technology said it would be beneficial due to, "the time saved sitting down to a computer instead of driving three hours for an hour long meeting."

Odd Ducks

By Keith Whitcomb

Ducks have chosen to make their homes on the pond by the Lyndon State College Library and Academic Center. The mallards were first sighted at LSC about seven years ago. Since then the ducks have been enjoying a relatively predator free existence due to the lakes close proximity to human habitation.

It's normal for ducks, such as those living near LAC, to nest near humans. They become jaded to human presence after a short time. Professor Theresa Conant, of the Science Department, said, "Their presence in the pond may be linked to a higher bacteria count in the water although the water is still considered safe."

The ducks eat plant matter in

the water by straining it through their bills. Their diet is also supplemented by food tossed to them by people walking by the pond. Having people feed them can be detrimental to their health. Signs were put up over the summer telling people not to feed the ducks. Due to the idealness of the habitat, the ducks sometimes stay too long and some get stuck in the ice and have to be rescued.

The pond is fed by Dragon Pond and flows down into the Passumpsic. The flow helps the pond stay clean and habitable to wildlife. It's likely they nest in the weeds that grow near the corner of the small pond or they nest up in Dragon Pond and move down into the smaller one.

Hiking Trails on Campus

By Valerie Pierce

After exploring the Lyndon State College campus, students may have found that there are trails on the grounds. The trails can be entered in certain spots across the road on the west side of the academic building. The trails are available for use for a variety of activities.

Christopher Ummer, director of Athletics had copies of the Lyndon State College Trail Guide in which the trails are described.

The guide said that there are two main trails, the Lower Loop and the Upper Loop. The Upper Loop is 1.86 miles long with a red trail marker. The small paths that can be found along the main trail allow people to make shortcuts or to make the trail longer. Some areas may be steep and the ground cover is grass, dirt and pine needles. The trail goes through woodland and fields.

The Lower Loop is 1.24 miles long with a green trail marker. "The loop starts and finishes with 200 meters of flat terrain." This trail is a

little uneven in some places and the ground is covered in dirt or pine needles. There are three bridges that can be found along the way.

These two loops are connected by a trail that is 75 meters long. It is seasonal because it passes through a wetland and there is one bridge. The trail marker for this connector is yellow.

The activities that can be done on the trails depend on the months. From Mid July-Mid September they are for walking, biking, running and hiking. It depends on the amount of rainfall. January-March they are for skiing and snowshoeing. This depends on the amount of snowfall. Dave Conant, professor of Biology has taken his Plant Kingdom and Field Botany classes out to the trails during fall semesters. They have in the past looked at the flowering plants and ferns that have grown along the loops of the trails. Conant believed that some of the flowers that have grown were planted when T.N Vail owned this property.

New Met. Professor

By Sarah Donaghy

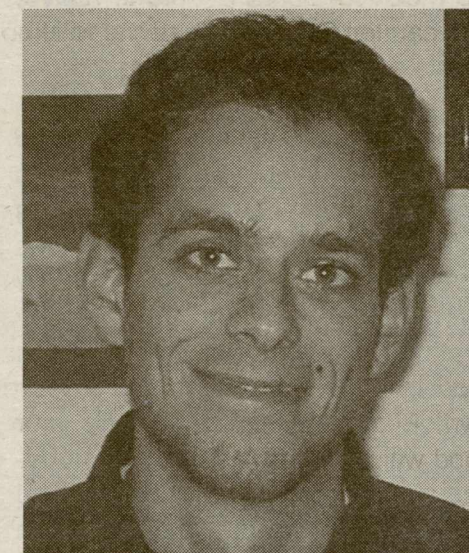
LSC welcomes a new professor to the Meteorology Department this year. Jason Shafer is looking to bring a more hands-on/outdoors approach to the Met department. He enjoys the outdoors (hiking, trail running, biking, cross country skiing, and ultimate Frisbee). He wants to bring the hands-on outdoor approach to his students, or more precisely bring his students to it. The more hands on field approach is something that he finds lacking more and more as meteorology turns to computer weather maps.

Shafer grew up in the suburbs of New Jersey but enjoys the small town atmosphere and access to the outdoors that his home in East Burke and his job at LSC provide. He was attracted to teaching rather than the practice of commercial meteorology because he wanted to touch the lives of his students.

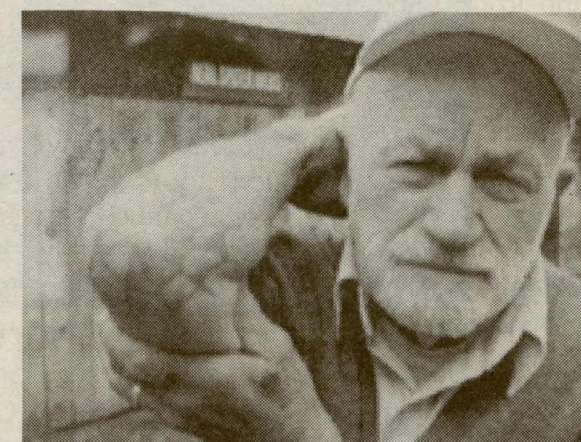
"[Students] can take a little of me away with them," he commented. He feels teaching gives him a

bigger impact on this field of science and he really enjoys seeing what makes his students tick, in and outside the classroom.

Although he is enjoying his semester, he looks forward to the time off summer will provide. Besides spending time with his new wife, he is looking at writing a book about what he calls "reading the sky without computers."



Photographed By: Nicole Miner



In the Sept. 22nd issue, The Critic failed to acknowledge David Ballou for this photograph.

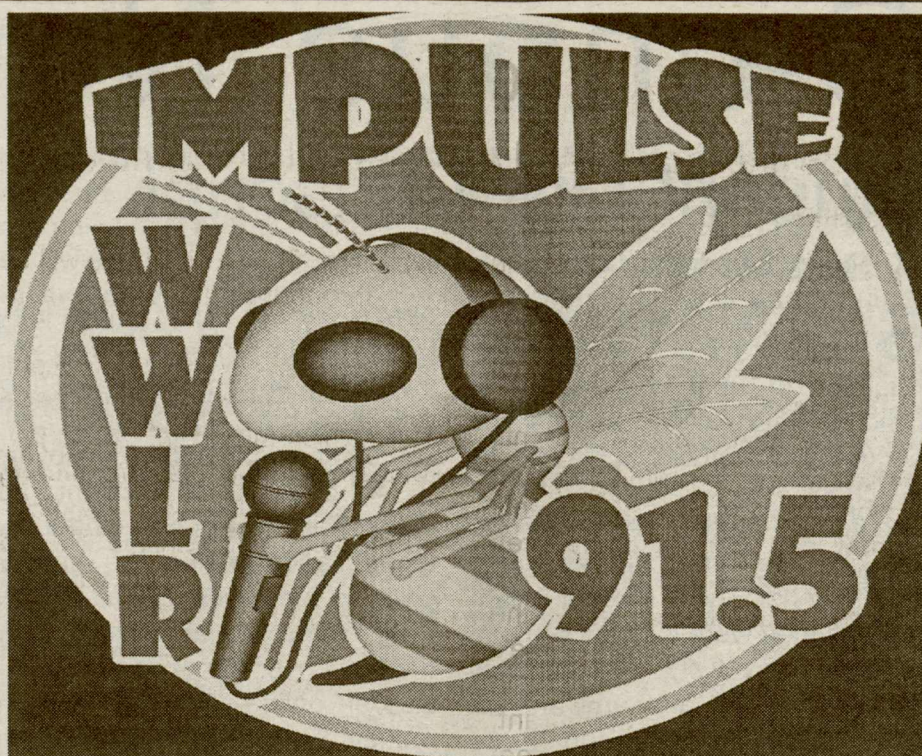
Fun Page...

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AGRUMENTS
ALARMCLOCK
BILLS
BOYFRIEN
CAFFINE
CHILDREN
CHORES
CLASSES
DEADLINES
FRIENDS
GIRLFRIEND
HOMEWORK

JOB
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The Critic is looking for motivated students to fill the following positions.

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Games Creator
Entertainment Reporter
Photographers
Writers

If you are interested in working for the critic please contact:

Nicole Miner, Editor at
Critic, LSC Box 7915 or Ext. 6689 or email
Nicole.Miner@lsc.vsc.edu

Horoscopes

By Madame Divine

Aries: Mar. 21-Apr. 20

The Ram

An Adventure seems to be in need. Don't over do it though it is heading into cold season. Conserve your energy. Also be sure to have your guts in check. Your quick witted remarks can be a little too much for some people to handle. Use them with caution. Someone special will knock on your door.

Taurus: Apr. 22-May 21

The Bull

Be spontaneous. Spend some money, but be sure to share because sharing is caring. Compliments are nice to hear but also nice to give. Remember to make that special person smile. Don't spend too much time waiting for something to happen, make an event of your own. Plan a romantic evening and something good will come your way.

Gemini: May 22-June 21

The Twins

Not everyone wants to know what you have to say. Get to the point and waste no time. Don't worry for nothing, take care of existing issues. Your energy is endless, make sure to put it to good use. Make sure to tell that person how you feel or you may loose your chance forever.

Cancer: June 22-July 22

The Crab

Don't let the little things get to you. Brush it off your shoulder. Your imagination drives your creativity through the roof. When you start something be sure to finish it. A lingering project will drive you crazy. Give things a chance before your swear them off, a surprise could be in store.

Leo: July 23-Aug. 22

The Lion

Being in control may be great but try going with the flow. Let someone else make the decisions. Helping others out is gratifying. Don't sell yourself short. Showing your enthusiasm about your desires inspires others interest. Call an old friend and reminisce about memories.

Virgo: Aug. 23-Sept. 23

The Virgin

Tuff up. Your not a push over. Do what you want to do. Let loose. Who cares about others think? Remember you are always a beautiful person inside. Your punctual attitude pays off. Satisfaction feels so good. Set worries aside and take the plunge.

Libra: Sept. 24-Oct. 23

The Scales

People can get the best of you. Put your foot down and don't be a sucker any longer. Your romantic charm delights everyone around you. Be a little mischievous, a love interest likes the devil in you. Remember flirting is fun but no means no.

Scorpio: Oct. 24-Nov.22

The Scorpion

Set your mind to anything and you will complete it. Don't try to be an over achiever though and take on too much. Stress will bog you down. Plan an exciting trip or day just to relax and indulge in me time. Your magnetic charms lure someone special in.

Sagittarius: Nov. 23-Dec. 21

The Archer

Be true to yourself. You are the only one who truly knows you. Been holding someone back because you are afraid of the consequences? Just fess up and deal. Better now than later. If they care for you they will get over it. Kiss a random person to see their reaction.

Capricorn: Dec. 22-Jan. 20

The Goat

Let by gones be by gones. No reason to dwell on the past, the future holds it all. Smile at someone and they will smile back. Take a hot shower and just pamper yourself. No one deserves it more than you. Send a love note to your crush and watch them blush.

Aquarius: Jan. 21-Feb. 19

The Water Carrier

Put together a puzzle. Do something to challenge your amazing intellect. Your ability to make friends is outstanding but remember to choose your friends wisely. Guilty by association. A moon lite stroll in the woods. Somewhere sounds like fun. Make sure to bring a hatchet.

Pisces: Feb. 20-Mar. 20

The Fishes

Don't take everything to heart. Most people don't mean to hurt your feelings. Escaping always looks like a better route but instead face the music and you will see it really isn't all that bad. Take your partner out somewhere romantic. Then go parking because you can't wait to get home.

Campus News...

Student Life Transcript

By Sara Morehouse

Student Life Transcripts are used to keep track of a person's participation in what is going on at Lyndon State College and can be beneficial to a student's life outside of school.

The items a student can put on the Student Life Transcript are what jobs they held, what student organizations they were in, what campus activities they went to, what they volunteered for, and any and all interactions with Lyndon State College's staff, administration, and faculty. This list, however, is not the limit of what can be put on the Student Life Transcript. Any activity or event that the student participated in while attending Lyndon State College can be included on the transcript.

The Student Life Transcript is beneficial to students because it is an official document that can be used to show any leadership positions or involvement in activities outside of the classroom. Recording such co-curricular activities may be important for a stu-

dent's career after they leave Lyndon State College. If they were involved in any career-related activities, they have official proof and it can be shown to future employers.

To request a Student Life Transcript, a signed, written, or typed request must be sent or given to the Student Affairs Office. They accept fax and mail, but not requests over the phone. There is also an online request form. The request they receive must have the following information: the student's full name, their Lyndon State College Identification number or Social Security number, their campus address or permanent address, their last semester of attendance or their graduation date, and their signature. The Student Life Transcripts are free of charge.

The Student Life Transcript is protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. A Student Life Transcript will not be sent to a student if they have any debt to the school or a hold on their account.

Online Courses Are Here, More To Come

By Nicholas R. Plante

LSC is transforming their education by offering online courses in order to meet student's needs and to stay competitive against other colleges.

Last year the administration set a goal of offering ten online courses through out the summer. The goal was almost accomplished; LSC offered seven. "The goal was ten because we're trying to see if we can drum up support from the faculty," Mike Dente, LSC assistant chief technical officer, said.

The classes are still in the beginning stages of development. The first class offered was meteorology offered in the spring semester of 2005. Full time faculty, as well as part-time faculty, have taught the courses. Dente said he taught three, one credit, online courses last summer and experienced difficulties. "I teach the same courses in the class room and it's a lot different. You don't see the people [online students] and you have to show them online and it's not easy," Dente said. Deb Hale, LSC regis-

trar said, "It's what students are looking for...and schools are offering them and it's part of being competitive." Hale said.

The medium to house the courses already exist, however the registration and promotion processes are still being workout. Hale said there is a registration form on the LSC website, but the process current being explored to become a "total online experience." A committee has been organized to correct certain difficulties in the process, like instructions for out of state students and general instruction including how to access all part of the online course system. "We don't have the perfect system yet. We've done it. We know where the pitfalls are. Now we have to correct the pitfalls."

The online courses are offered only during the LSC academic term. The course numbers and the credits awarded follow those found in the LSC and VSC academic catalog.

Cold & Flu Season is Back

By Seth Lathrop

The Infirmary doors here at LSC have been opening and closing a lot more frequently these days, and the cause should be evident to anyone walking the hallways of Vail, LAC, or any of the other buildings on campus; coughing, sneezing, and snorting people are everywhere.

As happens every year when students return to their close living quarters, the cold and flu season has come back again. There is still hope for most students to avoid these common illnesses though. Simply follow your mother's advice and you should be fine; wash your hands after going to the bathroom and before meals, be careful to sneeze into a tissue or your elbow, and drink plenty of orange juice. Also, cover your mouth when you cough, and consider carrying hand sanitizer or treated wipes with you to prevent transferring germs to others.

Along with following those loose guidelines and getting plenty of bed rest, most students should be able to avoid infection and have a healthy fall term.

Chancellor To Visit LSC

By Amanda Wozniak

Robert G. Clarke, Chancellor of the VSC community, will be visiting LSC on October 21, 2005. During his visits he plans to meet with small groups of faculty, staff, and students to discuss the key challenges facing VSC and how we as a community can most effectively address them. Some of the challenges that they will be focusing on are: advance the role of the Vermont State Colleges, ensure quality teaching and learning, ensure adequate funding, provide fair compensation, use data to inform decisions, and maximize efficiency and productivity. These are all categories that were decided on by the board of trustees at the 2004 planning retreat. Some of the questions that he plans to answer during his visit regard the key challenges and whether they have been properly identified. The chancellor's office would also like to know how they could help support LSC.

High Enrollment

By Valerie Pierce

According to a source in the Registrar's office there are 1,354 students enrolled at LSC this semester. Assistant Dean for Admissions, Michelle McCaffrey, added that there are 492 students currently in the freshman class. There are twenty more students living on campus this year then there were last year. The upper classman housing in the Rita Bole Complex has made more rooms in Stonehenge available.

Due to the rise in student enrollment, the mailroom has had to add a wall of 140 new mailboxes to keep up with the growing student population. The "Dean of the Mailroom" Harry Swett wants to make sure that everybody gets his or her mail. The mailroom has been growing steadily in the last 14 years that Swett has been here. "In '91 there were 900 mailboxes, '05 there are 1,400 mailboxes." (Some of the mailboxes are currently not in use.) On September 6th 140 packages for students were received by mail. That doesn't include the packages that arrived through other services. What is also growing is the amount

of cars in the parking lot. Broadcast News major, Amanda Latuch, said that the parking in the Stonehenge parking lot is "horrible". She mentioned that there are cars being parked on the grass and in the no parking zones. Latuch said trying to find a parking spot in the afternoon when the campus was full was the hardest. The weekends are the best time for parking, she believes, because the lots are not as full.

Mathematics/Secondary Education major, Josh Murray also had a few things to say about the parking on campus. "People need to learn to follow the arrows that are painted on the parking lot. You know how many times I come around a corner and a car is flying at me? I think with a new building and the school getting a bigger reputation there should be more parking."

Many changes are being done around campus in light of the larger enrollment; until the parking situation is taking care students are reminded to not park on the grass or in no parking zones. If a designated parking area is full, park your car in Vail parking lot.

LSC Starts Hate Free Community

By Mary Wheeler

Members of residential life, faculty, students, and community members gathered together for the first Hate Free Community Meeting of the year Tuesday October 4 at 7:00 in front of the Alexander Twilight Theater.

Starting this year, the Hate Free Community was created to teach and promote diversity, prevent hate and encourage participation throughout the community. Organized by Leo Sevigny, Associate Dean of Students at Lyndon State College, the program is intended to be predominantly student run, but will also include faculty and staff. "We're taking the creation of this group in small steps as it will take time to grow. Students should know that it only takes small things to change a community," Sevigny said.

Sevigny plans on having a group of trained facilitators and trainers that will enter the community to teach diversity and educate people on the benefits of creating a hate-free community. A person will go through approximately 5-6 hours of

training before being certified and will be given a polo-fleece vest with the hate-free community logo embossed on it for their commitment to the cause.

Community members also attended this meeting. A representative from Umbrella Inc, a peace program in Saint Johnsbury, came to discuss some of the organizations upcoming events. On October 6, the sixth annual silent witness march was held remembering those who lost their lives to domestic violence. The group will also be hosting a seminar called "In her Shoes," on October 24 at 10:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. in the Burke Mountain Room.

Many INT-1020 Academic Community classes completed a week long course in hate prevention and Sevigny hopes this exposure will encourage more students to participate in these meetings and to continue to educate people on "phobias" and "isms." One participant suggested that one of the INT-1020 classes have a specific

focus on creating a hate-free community.

Sevigny turned the meeting over to a discussion-based forum where participants could suggest ways to further advertise the cause. One suggestion was made to e-mail a list of diversity related classes to the students that are offered each semester. Another suggestion was to advertise the message through suite socials and by promoting the group's logo on posters.

The meeting ended with all in attendance signing a "Hate Free LSC" poster, which will be hung on the bulletin board near the theater. Sevigny hopes the number of signature on this poster will grow as the number interested and committed members increases. The group is planning on meeting every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in front of the Twilight Theater. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend. For more information visit www.tolerance.org.

Campus Cleanliness

By Joshua James Gervais

Keeping a tidy campus is hard work. Every year LSC get new students who aren't necessarily used to picking up after themselves, and the addition of the Rita Bole Complex adds to the task of keeping things clean.

According to Custodial Supervisor, David Wood, the messiest times for the campus are when residential students are moving or before the holiday break. He also said that some students need sometime to learn where trash can be disposed of and the like. When given the chance to give the stu-

dent body a message Wood said, "Treat [the campus] like you would your home."

Gaylow Ely, who is responsible for the student center, one of the campuses more populated areas, seems to have nothing but praise for the "well mannered kids," that use the student center.

Terry Dwyer, a new employee working in the Rita Bole Complex, says that there was a learning curve for both himself and the students that live in the Rita Bole Complex, but that things are going well now.

The State of Lyndon State.

By Keith Whitcomb JR.

Faculty and staff met in the community room of the new Rita Bole Complex to hear LSC President, Carol Moore, deliver her State of the College Address. Moore started off by giving numbers on student populations. There are 1362 students currently attending Lyndon State College. Of that number 682 live on campus.

While most of what Moore had to say was positive, LSC still has some goals that it can work towards. One of these goals is student retention numbers. Although retention is up from last year, it is still below the figures from 2002 and 2003. "Admission and retention is everyone's job," Moore said.

One of the things Moore cited as a factor in keeping students at

LSC is sports. Students who are athletes have a three percent greater retention rate than other students, said Moore.

Moore went on to cite LSC's recent accomplishments. Among them the re-bricking of the Stonehenge courtyard, the construction of the Rita Bole Complex and the renovations made to the Harvey Academic Center.

Moore also spoke of an upcoming capitol raising campaign. The campaign is scheduled to go public in 2008 and be completed by LSC's 100th anniversary in 2011. Moore said the campaign itself is supposed to cost \$50,000 dollars. This will cover the cost of hiring a consultant and creating a computerized alumni-tracking database.

Quilting Class More than a Quilting Class

By Keith Whitcomb

Professors teaching experiencing the arts all add their own personal touch to the course material. Elizabeth Norris, professor of Fine and Performing Arts, holds a doctorate in vocal arts; yet she has made quilting part of her course material for the past four years.

"It's not about a quilt, it's about art," Norris said. She learned to quilt herself while living in Libby, Montana where quilting is a part of the culture. To graduate from high school, students in Libby must complete a quilt.

Norris says she gets a few bad reactions when her students find out that they have to make a quilt to pass her class. The students who stick with the course often find the experience rewarding. To sew the quilt together, students who don't have access to sewing machines are welcome to go make an appointment to use one of the three machines set up in Norris's office. This affords Norris an opportunity

to connect with her students. "I know their name's, I know where they're from," Norris said.

At the end of the course students are required to write a reflection paper on their quilting experience. Norris said about 24 out of 25 are positive. Students become emotionally attached to their quilting projects. They're encouraged to bring in and use fabrics that are important to them. One student began making a quilt in honor of his friend who died overseas. The quilt ended up becoming a memorial to the fallen soldier and was decorated with his medals.

Norris stresses the importance of the projects ability to teach various skills. Students gain the ability to sew, they learn to deal with frustration and they learn something about themselves through this hands-on experience. "You can't teach art by reading a textbook," Norris said.

Two LSC Students May Win a Million Dollars

By Amanda Gilman

LSC students, Adam Desautels and Nate Godin, may have the chance to compete for a million dollars on "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire" in the next few months. They were chosen, and entered into a pool of possible contestants, for their prowess playing the computerized version of the game show.

On September 12, 2005 both Desautels and Godin made the 7 hour trip to New York City for audi-

tions (including a 30 question test) and to be a part of the audience during the most recent taping of "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire". The episode taped that day will air in mid-October and may feature a few close ups of Desautels and Godin in the audience.

Both students expect to be contacted in the near future to return to New York for the taping of a college edition of "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire".

Wind Storm continued from page two...

phone systems are similarly set up to work in the occurrence of a power outage. A student on a laptop with a wireless card could have checked his or her LSC email in the snack bar while the power was out without any trouble. The Information Technologies Department has been working on ways to keep these systems running for the last 5 years, Santacaterina said.

President Moore on Sabbatical

By Nicholas R. Plante

LSC President, Carol Moore, is currently on a three month sabbatical, and will be, for over a year and a half.

Moore has been approved to take a three month sabbatical. The sabbatical will span over the next year and a half. "Part of the history in the VSC is that presidents who have served for seven years can request a three month sabbatical," Moore said, "and I thought this would be a good time, to have a time without meetings everyday and plan for the campaign." Moore explained she would only be taking a few days at a time, and during her absence one of the college's deans will fill her position.

As outlined in the Dean Advisement Board (DAB), LSC is planning a capital campaign in order to mark the college's 100 year anniversary in 2011. The campaign has no specific monetary target as of yet, however, Moore mentioned a fund raising goal range of \$1million to \$10 million at this year's DAB retreat.

"What we're working on now is who I will be visiting, conference planning, and visiting various alums, and I hope to do some writing," Moore said. She said she would be working in the local area and that she wasn't going anywhere other than visiting the alums, and she said she hopes to write some articles for various educational journals.

Conquer the Maze

By Valerie Pierce

One thing that many, if not all, Vermonters are familiar with are fields of corn, a majority of these fields are grown and harvested every year. There is a field in Danville that is different. This five-acre area is the home of The Great Vermont Corn Maze. There is a different maze every year.

The owners, Mike and Dayna Boudreau, have a wealth of different places to visit on their property. There is the maze itself, along with large perplexing puzzles, a wildflower garden, and a Barnyard

Nature Center that has gopher tunnels for people. The Worlds First Barnyard mini golf course can be found here as well. There are special events that are offered, including haunted mazes.

Mike Boudreau, owner and builder of the maze, starts in January by sketching the design of the maze using graph paper. Boudreau and his wife, Dayna, plant and till by hand before tending to the pathways and bridges

Wiesia Milewski, LSC Student, said it was a "wonderful experience." Krystal Tardif, Education major, said that it was one of the "most challenging" experiences she has ever encountered. "The way you think is correct," she said, "brings you right back to square one."

"When you drive to the maze, half the fun is getting there on the back roads that seem to wind through nowhere, only to find that you solve one maze to enter another."

The maze is open during August and September from Ten A.M to Five P.M and October from Ten A.M to Four P.M. The last person is allowed to enter one hour before closing. The prices are eight dollars for adults (fifteen and up), six dollars for children (four-fourteen) and senior citizens above sixty-two. The maze is free for children under three years of age. The mini golf is only a dollar and a half with admission to the maze.

A word of advice from the Boudreaus when attempting the maze; "if you find yourself in this masterpiece of puzzlement, be sure to follow the rules, with this much work involved it is a shame to see it ruined by the carelessness and thoughtlessness of a few with no respect for the effort involved." Stay on the marked paths, straying will gain you nothing but ejection from the maze.

Former NBC Correspondent To Visit LSC

By Amanda Gilman

A former NBC correspondent and native Vermonter came to visit LSC Monday October 3rd.

Robert Hager worked as an NBC correspondent for over 35 years; first in Vietnam and Berlin and later in Washington D.C. Hager spoke about his career in an interview given to USA Today reporter Peter Johnson (<http://www.usatoday.com>) and said "I didn't imagine that I was going to be general assignment. But when I came to Washington (in 1979) all the major beats - Congress, White House, Justice - were all filled, so I started doing general assignment, and then I discovered I liked the variety."

Hager evolved from general assignment reporting to cover human interest pieces on aviation, auto safety, meteorology, and the drug

industry that were uncommon for the time. In the interview Hager said "I saw this opening for stories about things that really affect people's lives, an area that could be carved out that would be consumer-oriented but reporting it as straight news."

Hager credits his success to changing with the times. He told USA Today "the ground rules have changed. Bottom-line ownership took over (and) ratings became a factor. ... But that's an example of how our industry moves on. It can't be stopped."

Hager spoke to speak to broadcast, television, and journalism students Monday evening in the Burke Mountain Room at 6:15. All were invited to attend and light refreshments were served.

Miss Vermont, USA

By Amanda Gilman

Editor's Note: Amanda Gilman was named Miss Vermont, USA in last months pageant. This is her first hand account.

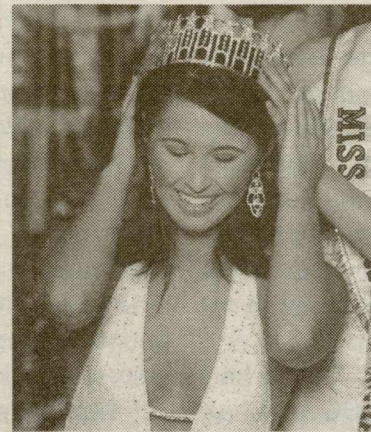
As I stood there with the bright lights shining in my eyes, I couldn't hear anything but the pounding of my own heart. My legs shook uncontrollably (not such a good thing in 5 inch heels) and thick black mascara tears threatened to roll down my cheeks. Tension ran high to say the least, and I was ready to find out if I was once again the first runner up. The announcer began with a drum role "and the first runner up for the title of Miss Vermont USA 2006 is...Miss Montpelier USA, Jessica Comolli! Our new Miss Vermont USA is Amanda Gilman!" Shock doesn't even begin to describe my state of mind at that moment in fact, at first I actually thought I hadn't won and I congratulated,

hugged, and thoroughly confused my first runner up! But reality set in and that's when the real tears poured down - tears of shock, tears of disbelief and many tears of happiness. My journey to the title of Miss Vermont USA was a long one filled with a few disappointments and a lot of excitement. Four years ago I competed for Miss Vermont Teen USA and caught the "pageant bug" and now my dream has finally come true. It's surreal for me to think about it because I've wanted to be

Miss Vermont USA for so long and now I am Miss Vermont USA.

My title wasn't won with a rock hard six pack or shapely legs (things I could only aspire to), my title was won with persistence, hard work, and dedication. I won Miss Vermont USA not because of my body but because of my heart, of this I am sure. I want everyone to understand that to many delegates (including myself) being Miss Vermont USA isn't about glitz and glamour or even the crown and the sash, it's about accepting a challenge to make a difference. Every year someone just like me gets the opportunity to change history and this year that lucky person is me.

So what do I plan to do with my year? (The age old question) wellfor starters I plan to enjoy every minute of it! But most importantly I want to volunteer as much of my time as I possibly can. I want to work my butt off (quite literally in fact) in preparation for nationals so that maybe, just maybe, I can place in the top 15 at Miss USA this April (something nobody in Vermont has done in over 40 years). And I want to get as many young women as I can to realize the possibilities you have when you chase a dream.



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Lyndonville, VT

October 21, 2005 Volume 52, Number 3

FREE!

Student Arrested on Felony count of Possession

By Nicole Miner

A LSC student was arrested Wednesday night on a felony charge of possession of marijuana. Jonathan Kearney was charged with the crime.

At 10:38 p.m. Wednesday (October 19) the Vermont State Police were called to campus by Public Safety in regards to marijuana found Whitelaw Hall. Public Safety responded to a Residence Hall Director who reported the smell of marijuana was coming from a room. According to the Public Safety public log, the Residence Hall Director on duty searched the room that smelled of marijuana with the permission of the occupants. The room in question belonged to Benjamin Blunt and Kearney.

According to the State Police report of the incident a large amount of marijuana was found and Public Safety called in the Vermont State

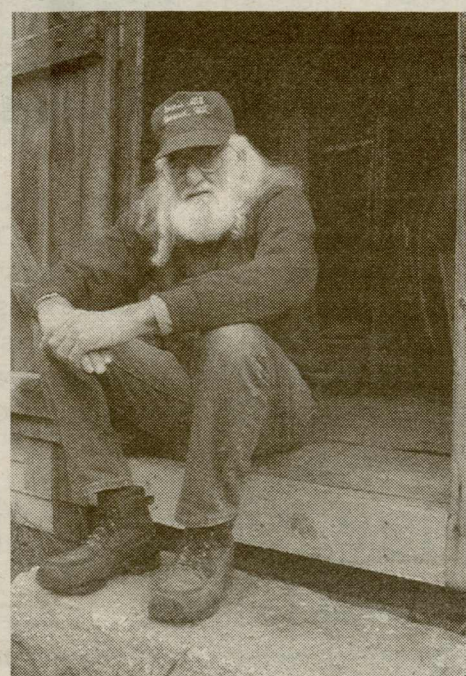
Police advising them that a resident was in possession of marijuana. Vermont State Police Officers, Finn and May searched the room as well and found more marijuana. Kearney was arrested and processed for felony possession of marijuana.

In order for marijuana possession to be considered a felony, the person in possession must have more than 2 oz. of marijuana. Being in possession of 2 oz. to 1 lb. of marijuana is punishable by up to three years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. Being in possession of 1-10 lbs. of marijuana is punishable by up to five years in prison and \$100,000 fine.

There were four or five State Police Officers on campus to handle this situation, Michael Barata, a Business Major, said. During the incident there were six or seven students in the hallway, but they were probably bystanders, Barata said.

"North Stars" to open in Quimby Gallery

Professor of Television Studies David Ballou teamed up with local writer and North Star editor Terry Hoffer to create a series of unique Vermont portraits opening on October 28 in Quimby Gallery. Photographer Ballou's delicate black and white portraits like that of builder Hiram Allen, are combined with Hoffer's succinct sketches for the show.



Photograph By David Ballou

Entrapment in the Elevator

By Sarah Donaghy

On Friday, October 7th the elevator in the Vail building at Lyndon State College broke down trapping three people inside. Aurora Proctor, her three-year-old son Max Legacy, and mother Katherine Proctor remained stuck on the third floor for nearly an hour before the door was able to be opened and they were let out.

On the morning of the incident, Aurora Proctor was working a long shift at the switchboard. Classes were canceled for the day and the building had few people in it. Katherine Proctor was about to take her grandson Max Legacy downstairs and her daughter went with them, needing to leave a key with a professor on the way. The door shuttered as it slid along its tracks and once closed it couldn't be opened again, nor would the elevator move up or down.

Public Safety came soon after and used the approved list by the elevator to find someone to help. Not wanting the three-year-old to realize their situation and panic, Aurora Proctor kept her son busy by allowing him to play with the contents of her wallet.

Keith Brown soon arrived. He had been trained five years earlier in the procedure used to aid people stuck in the elevator. Unfortunately for

the Proctor family, Brown had recently had surgery on his shoulder and didn't have the strength to open the door.

Public Safety called the fire department, following the protocol established at LSC. Two firemen, one of them a student at LSC, arrived and were able to get the door open and free the Proctors. Afterwards the elevator was shut down until the following Tuesday when someone from Baystate, the elevator company for our school, was able to work on it. "That elevator needs to be replaced," Aurora Proctor said. Just fixing the latest problem may not be enough since this isn't the first time someone has been stuck in it this semester.

David Johnston, Professor of Philosophy, was stuck in the elevator for somewhere between thirty and forty minutes as he was moving boxes to and from his office in early September. To him the experience wasn't frightening "I was less concerned about being trapped in the elevator than the people outside were."

Johnston began reading a book he had with him while security was summoned. They tried to reset the elevator by turning the power off and on. When that didn't work someone from the

maintenance staff brought down a tool resembling an Allen-wrench and opened the door.

Overall, Johnston found it to be quite an exciting experience. "I've ridden in it since and haven't had any problem," Johnston said. But events like this could cause a problem for LSC. We need working elevators to follow the Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines.

Despite continued problems with the elevators, Jim Gallagher, the head of the maintenance department at LSC, stands by Baystate. It is a large company that works all over the country. The school's elevators are inspected by the company every month and inspected for safety once a year. The elevator shaft was replaced three or four years ago to alleviate some of the problems.

A list of names is printed on a plaque next to the elevator door. It is outdated; some of the people are no longer with LSC, so Gallagher is looking to retrain the staff in charge of it soon. This will cause fewer problems in helping those who may become trapped inside and make getting them out quicker as well as reestablishing protocol for those already trained.

Hard News...

From Spain to Vermont

By Amanda Gigliotti

Walking down the hall, a thin young man with an olive complexion greets people as he passes by. Carlos Ferrer, a Liberal Arts major, loves living in Vermont. He works fifty hours a week at LSC Public



Carlos Ferrer

Safety and being a facilitator for A World of Difference program. At A World of Difference he talks to seventh and eighth graders about diversity, sexuality and other topics. Also, Ferrer is writing and directing a play, "If these ID's could talk" which is due out mid November. On top of all this, he is a full time student and volunteers.

When there is time to spare, he enjoys being outdoors, playing soccer and hiking with his dogs. Road trips and traveling are other things that he likes. He's been to the West and South and there are many places that he could see himself in.

Ferrer recalls that when he was young he was always in boarding school. At the age of thirteen he went to high school in California but didn't adapt to the culture there. Then he was sent to Vermont and completed his schooling at the Saint Johnsbury Academy. After going back to Spain for a year, he came to Lyndon State College.

One memorable experience for him was when he was thirteen. He had been lost in the JFK airport in New York, and knew very little English. He needed to get to a plane that was about to leave. This was an eye opener and the beginning of a lot of things that he needed to deal with on his own. "Communication is the first step," Ferrer said about adapting into a culture.

His time in the United States has taught him to be independent and that he needed to learn about North American culture, especially to speak English. He remembers that it was difficult when he came here because he had to make a life for himself on his own. His family, his parents,

two brothers and a sister, are three thousand miles away. It is difficult because he is close with them. So, he struggled for many years with who he was and who he wanted to be. "The trick to adapting," Ferrer said, "is blending into the community." So, he talks to a lot of people everyday. While his family is still in Spain today, he feels that he's been adopted by a lot of people's families.

"I like this place. I've fully adapted to the people and the community," Ferrer said in reference to Vermont. "Even though I have adapted to this, I still keep my values from a Latin country." He feels as though he knows the area like someone who was born here. Ferrer has a hard time going back and adapting to the culture in Spain. Vermont is home to him and has been for the last ten years.

His dream is to stay in the United States and become an American citizen. Unfortunately, after he graduates, he will have to go back to Spain unless he finds a job that will sponsor him, which will be difficult because of the government. With this tough challenge, he tries his best at being a role model and blending into the culture. One way this is done is by helping people through volunteering and being involved in the community.

New Graduation Standards for Freshmen

By Sarah Donaghy

Beginning with this year's freshmen class there are some new obstacles standing in the way of graduation. Four new standards have been applied to students at Lyndon State College: Writing, Information Literacy, Quantitative Reasoning, and Civic Engagement. The Vermont State College system has implemented this change to insure that all graduates of the VSC system meet "certain minimum standards" before they are allowed to graduate.

These standards will come in two forms: online testing and in class testing. For each major these tests will be administered in certain classes. Tests done online will be done in the computer lab in the students' junior

year. Each student who needs to take the test will be notified as to the times it will be held and, on completion of the test, they will be told if they have passed. For those who don't pass, a make-up test will be available.

These four tests will only affect students who arrive in or after the fall of 2005. Students will probably be given study material in advance from the teachers of the classes in which the test must be preformed.

For freshmen with more questions on how this testing will be administered, what to expect from the tests, and when to take them, contact your advisor or Chandler Gilman, professor of English. Information is available online for faculty under My Organizations.

What's Happening in the Education Department

By Megan Renaud

As October rolls along there are many important things happening in the education department. The student teachers are beginning their professional licensure teaching portfolios and planning their lessons around those requirements. There is buzz among the sophomores and juniors about how to best study for the Praxis I and II. Finally, the freshmen are just being introduced to the education program.

The electronic version of the licensure portfolio has been a new introduction to the education department for the past two years. Marilyn Davis is the professor who heads up the electronic portfolio at LSC. Along with LSC Johnson State College, Castleton State College, Champlain College, and the University of Vermont are all part of a three year \$1.4 grant to teach the electronic portfolio.

The main purpose of replacing the paper portfolio with the electronic portfolio is to get beginning teachers more in touch with the technology available to them. The electronic portfolio is geared to create technology skills for teachers that will help them pass these skills onto their students. Another great benefit the electronic

portfolio offers education majors is the option of sharing their portfolio with anyone they want with a simple click of their mouse. It also gives students the opportunity to portray the components of their portfolio in a much richer selection of modes.

Although only one LSC education major chose the electronic portfolio last year, Davis still hold high expectations. Her goal for this year is to get 100% of the student teachers to complete the electronic portfolio. In addition she hopes to get the faculty more involved in the process behind making the portfolios.

Along with completing a teacher licensure portfolio that needs to meet state standards, student teachers are also responsible for teaching throughout the entire semester. There are several requirements that go along with this teaching. Teachers must submit two videos to the education board that meet specific requirements, maintain a reflective daily journal, and build up their responsibilities in the classroom until they take over full responsibility for the class for two to four weeks.

Gail Ruggles, a student teacher in the educa-

tion department is in her sixth week of teaching. Gail has taken over two to three sections of the language arts curriculum and is assisting in other lessons as well. Student teaching has helped her the most because of her teacher's awareness of her role as finishing the student teaching process. Ruggles plans on "graduating in December and getting a teaching job by January," she said. Ruggles owns her own home in Newark where she plans on finishing a job. For the past few years she has been subbing in the CNSU school district and will use that as a fall back job.

The Praxis tests are a series of tests that education majors must pass before they can continue in the major. The Praxis I measures basic academic skills and must be passed before education majors can participate in Junior Apprenticeship. The Praxis II measures general and subject specific knowledge and teaching skills. This test must be passed before participating in Student Teaching. The next Praxis I and II test dates are November 19, 2005. If you have any questions about the Praxis tests you can contact the site in Williston, VT at (802)-872-0251.

Editorials...

Letter to the Editor

Does Tabitha Fitzgerald think she (he?) is cute and interested in the local scene by calling our boar fountain a puking pig. Ugh! How tacky. How cute. How "shocking." How shallow. How "scholarly." If this is hip student journalism leave me out. Probably I've been a "journalist" since about the time I was 11. I'm now 66. Yes I puke. But [illegible] Ms. Fitzgerald for her tastelessness. Our Boar has sensitivity Tabitha merely bored. Irritates. Is she drunk on Irish brew?
Sincerely in [illegible]
(forget thought)
Howard Wesley Johnson

Where Does Our Money Go?

By Nicole Miner

This is my fourth year at LSC, and every year I pay more than \$20,000 in tuition fees. Over the years I have come to realize that most of the money I give to the school simply disappears. I would like to know where it is going, for it is not going where I would like it to go.

Twenty thousand dollars can go a long way, but none of my tuition goes to soap or paper towels in my suite bathroom. It is up to the suite to buy soap and paper towels. I have now purchased soap twice this semester, and no one has replaced it since it ran out. I cannot afford to continue buying soap when I am already paying a bundle to attend LSC in the first place. Even if I were to splurge and buy paper towels, there is nowhere in the suite bathroom to put them. How much can a plastic paper towel holder cost? I would assume that it would not cost \$20,000.

Besides there being no soap or paper towels provided; I find that the cleanliness of the suite bathrooms are less than admirable. Shower curtains are to be changed every three to four months. I know of a bathroom on campus that has had the same shower curtain ever since I arrived here. Is anyone aware of what kinds of bacteria and shower scum develop on shower curtains? How unhealthy that is for the students?

Apart from the health hazards of the bathrooms, I do not understand why, when it is absolutely freezing outside, no one will turn on the heat. The only reasoning I have ever received was that it is not yet October. I do not pay an average of \$40 a class period to sit and let my fingers turn to icicles. It is not practical for me to sit in my 9:30 a.m. class and wear my coat and scarf the entire time. On the other side of

the spectrum, very few classrooms have air conditioning for when the weather gets muggy and it is nearly impossible to attend class without dying of heat. How are students supposed to learn when they are not in a comfortable environment?

Last summer I took an independent study class and a six credit internship. I paid over \$1,000 for each course, and my professors advising me only received about \$60. Where does the rest of that money go? Does it cost \$1,000 to sit at a computer and type into my record that I earned three credits for my independent study? Or perhaps it goes to even more impractical things such as a \$500 trash can.

LSC can afford a \$500 trash-can, but they cannot heat the classrooms when it gets cold outside, or cool it when it gets hot. Nor can they offer faculty more money, resulting in a "contract war" that is disrupting the whole campus.

The trashcans on campus are not even well located. Walking from Stonehenge to LAC or Vail is disgusting. There is garbage all over the place. The pond is full of fruit and Frisbees and there is Dining Hall food splattered everywhere. If \$500 is allotted for new trash facilities, then buy several cheaper ones and place them in more commonly used areas of the campus so that they can better serve the students. I do not want to walk across campus and see it covered in other people's garbage. For \$500 a grounds keeper could be hired a few days a semester to pick up around campus and keep it looking nice.

For my \$20,000 a year I would like to see my money go towards things I am interested in and things that directly benefit me. When did education become a money maker? I do not believe that knowledge should cost \$80,000.

LSC is Coming Out

By Nicole Miner

On October 11, 2005 LSC celebrated Coming Out Day. At 8 p.m. in the Burke Mountain Room 54 LSC students, faculty and staff were in attendance to listen to a panel of five LSC community members tell their coming out stories. "I was really happy they had a decent turn out, because I think there was a fear that people just wouldn't care enough to take time out of their day to attend," Television Studies senior Abigail Stoutemore said.

Their stories held both humor and tears. After each panel member had a turn to share his or her story, the floor was opened to questions and comments. One LSC student asked if LSC is a homosexual-friendly community. The panel agreed that it was a fairly friendly community, but that there was more the school could do to raise

awareness and make an even more welcoming community. "I thought that the night was a great way to celebrate National Coming Out Day. The Lyndon State community needs more events like this to celebrate the diverse populations that we have on our campus," Donna Keely, Director of First Year Experience, said.

During the presentation a panel member quoted her mother as having said, "It does not matter who you love, as long as you love someone."

"The program was a great success. Differences surround us everyday and the program provided a chance to talk those differences and opened a door more diversity education on campus," Jon Cheney, Residence Hall Director, said.

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The Critic is looking for motivated students to fill the following positions.

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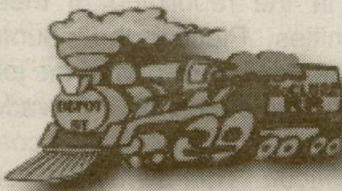
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Get Ready for a Wild Ride! 2006 Farmers' Almanac Predicts a Polar Coaster Winter

By Megan Renaud

As the hot air is being quickly replaced by the cold, students are gearing up for another cold winter. The peak season of fall foliage came and went in the blink of an eye. Mark Breen, meteorologist for the Fairbanks Museum and Vermont Public Radio says that can only mean one thing, a long and cold winter. Get ready for another one LSC.

Breen has some helpful hints that non-meteorologists can look for to determine the weather. Take for example the huge apple year it has been. There are loads of apples on almost every producing apple tree in the state. Crow Hill Orchard in St. Johnsbury is loaded with McIntosh and Cortland apples. David Clark, the owner of the orchard is amazed by the amount of apples his trees have produced this year. Breen suggests this great apple year is a key factor in determining the harshness of the winter that lies ahead.

Hornets have a keen sixth sense for weather. If the winter is going to bring an immense amount

of snow the hornets will build their nests high so it doesn't get damaged. Breen noted with a smirk that when he was walking through the woods recently he saw a hornets nest that meant only one thing, plenty of snow. "It was very high," Breen said.

Noticed all the squirrels running around campus lately? Ever thought, "I've never seen so many Squirrels!" That's because they're a lot busier than usual gathering nuts for the long winter.

Finally, another way Breen suggests determining if the winter is going to be long and cold with a lot of snow is to check the Farmers' Almanac. The Farmers' Almanac is predicating this winter to be a "Polar Coaster Winter." It predicts that "the east is on tap for a crazy ride, with the temperatures and weather initially leading into the winter season seeming mild, but the bulk of the winter will turn out to be unusually cold, with plenty of snow especially in the northern sections," says Sandi Duncan, the Managing

Editor. It's predicting the first big snow storm to be somewhere in between November 16-19.

"Wonderful!" sighed Carmen Henry, a junior in the Human services major, sarcastically. "Winter is dull. No one is outside. Everyone is inside because it is so cold. The only thing I like about the winter is skiing," Henry said. Being from N.H., Henry wasn't too surprised about the hard winter coming. However, she still hates the icy roads.

Henry reflects about the campus in the winter as being interesting. "Either the rooms are too hot or freezing. There's no in between," Henry said about the residence halls. "I've heard some people complaining about the snow plows in the court yard early in the morning. It's just something they have to deal with," Henry said. Get used to it LSC because if the Farmers' Almanac's predictions are accurate, this winter is going to bring some loud early mornings.

Dinner with El Salvador

By Sarah Donaghy

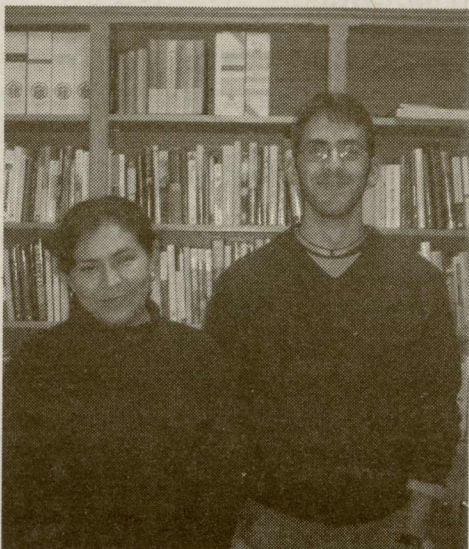
Last Friday LSC welcomed two very influential people to our campus. Maria Rudecinda Orellana, known to most people as Elsie, was born in El Salvador and raised there during wartime. Most of her life was spent fleeing the government and army of her country as they tried to wipe out the rural population in El Salvador. From the age of eight she was forced to live in caves, mountains, and forests watching and waiting as her family died. All forces that opposed the government were considered guerrilla forces and by thirteen she was working with guerrillas as a nurse, taking care of disease and war wounds.

Jesse Kates-Chinoy, Orellana's interpreter, grew up in Maine but when he visited El Salvador he found his calling in the plight of the displaced people of the country. Now he works with Orellana in the National Directives Council of CRIPDES. CRIPDES works with "sister cities" in the United States to help set up avenues of mutual learning and support in the post war El Salvador.

They are hoping to set up the displaced communities with fair, democratic elections and a government that works with and for them. Although the peace accords were signed over a decade ago, ending the war that left the rural citizens, men, women, and children alike, without a home, there is still much turmoil in the rebuilding of these communities. Piecing the country back together is only part of the job. Educating the people of El Salvador on even a high school level is costly and difficult. That is why the work

Orellana and Kates-Chinoy do in the US is so important. They must make people aware of their plight so that the atrocities cannot be committed again and monetary aid can be sent to get them to the point where independence is possible.

That was what they were doing at LSC on Friday, October 14th. Orellana and Kates-Chinoy stopped by to have dinner and speak to the students, educating them on what was going on and how they could help. While less than a dozen students, faculty, and community members came to the dinner, roughly the same number came to the discussion at the church in St. Johnsbury. Awareness was raised at LSC and in the community. Students for Global change invited our El Salvadorian guest and Daisy McCoy, Professor of Mathematics, facilitated the operations. Ideas were exchanged on setting up St. Johnsbury with CRIPDES and making her a sister city to El Salvador. For more information students may consult Students for Global Change or McCoy here on campus.



Maria Orellana and Jesse Kates-Chinoy

Lyndon, Past and Present

By Valerie Pierce

Lyndon State College was started as one of the three Vermont Normal Schools in 1922. A Normal school was an institution that trained teachers. The other two Normal Schools were located in Burlington and Castleton, Vermont.

Mike Corrow, 75, of Pomfret, Vermont remembers attending the Lyndon Normal School in 1948-1949. He was nineteen years old. The classes were held in four rooms on the first floor of the present day Lyndon Institutes Sanborn Hall.

There were only ninety-five students, "90 girls and 5 boys," enrolled in the college while Corrow was there. This is compared to the 1,354 students that are currently enrolled according to the LSC Web site. The current ratio of boys to girls in 2005 is forty-eight males to fifty-two females.

The tuition that Corrow thought he paid was three hundred and fifty dollars for the year that he was

here. Today, according to the LSC website, the tuition for the 2005-2006 school year for Vermont residents is \$14,223.

In 1951 Lyndon State College was moved up the road to T.N Vail's mansion on the top of the hill. The Lyndon Normal School became a teachers College in 1947 and all programs were completely certified in 1973. This was stated by www.vermonter.com.

The campus now is much larger after years of expansion; other buildings were built in the sixties. There are three academic buildings, a dining hall and eight resident's halls.

Information on Lyndon State College can also be found on www.vermonter.com/nek/lyndon4.asp, <http://crs.uvm.edu/profiles/lyndon/history.htm> or the LSC website www.lsc.vsc.edu or http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Normal_school.

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Fun Page...

Horoscopes

By Madame Divine

Aries: Mar. 21 - Apr. 20
The Ram
You are feeling out going and spontaneous. Act on your feelings and try something new. Make sure to get plenty of rest, a late night is coming your way. An unexpected individual will grace you with their presence. Your lucky number is 5.

Taurus: Apr. 21 - May 21
The Bull
Some much-needed alone time is all you need. Take care of the important things and leave the little stuff for later. Plan a fun trip to relax and enjoy you. If you don't love yourself who will? Don't break your promises. Your lucky number is 10.

Gemini: May 22 - June 21
The Twins
You love to play games. Make sure you are playing fair though because you don't like it when someone gets the best of you. Funds may be a little tight right now, but it should work out in the end. Confidence is all you need to achieve personal satisfaction. Your lucky number is 3.

Cancer: June 22 - July 22
The Crab
Remember no one knows you as well as you know yourself. If you feel like crying go ahead, be sure to have a Kleenex. Throw the rulebook out the window and be a little daring. Craziness is next to godliness. Your lucky number is 6.

Leo: July 23 - Aug. 22
The Lion
Feel like yelling and screaming? Control yourself. Not everyone is as perfect as you think they are. Try helping and if that doesn't work, let it be. Tough love. Take a vacation and collect your inner being. Your lucky number is 2.

Virgo: Aug. 23 - Sept. 23
The Virgin
Do not hold back your feelings. Make sure to let people know how you feel; if they care they will take your feelings into consideration. Cold weather is on its way, much sure you are prepared for any climate. Do the best you can and it will be good enough. Your lucky number is 4.

Libra: Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
The Scales
Make a decision and stick to it. No one likes someone who can't make up his or her mind. Do not mislead people into thinking you are available if you are not, you will soon be labeled a tease. Not everything is true that you hear, find out the facts before believing. Your lucky number is 8.

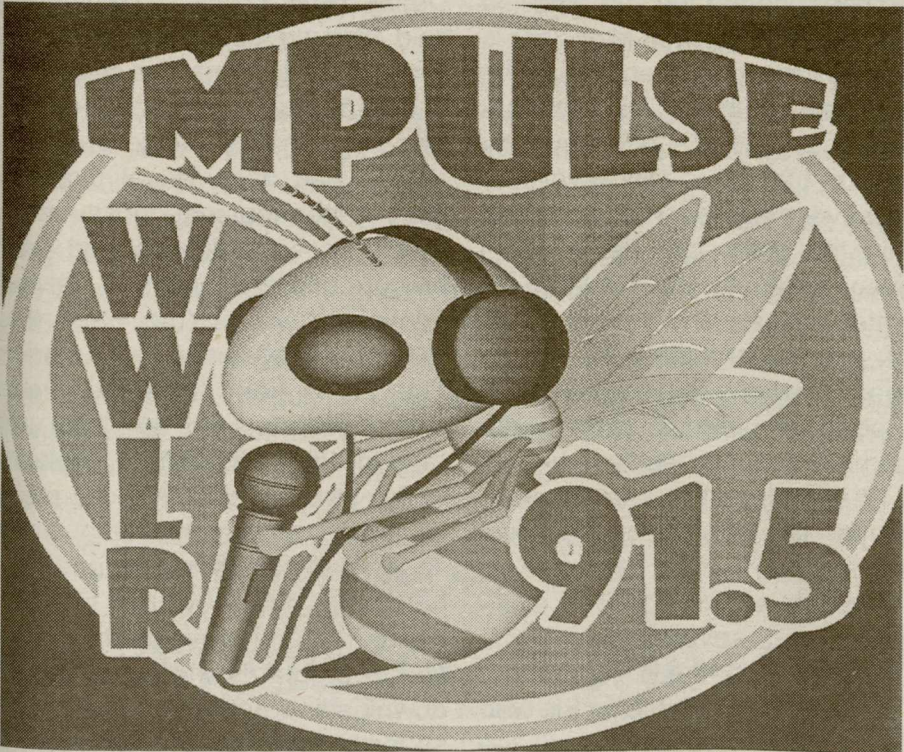
Scorpio: Oct. - Nov. 22
The Scorpion
Things may be bad, but remember, they can get worse. Try to make the best of what you have and go from there. Your jealous tendencies can get the best of you, make sure to give a little leeway or you may find yourself alone. Your lucky number is 11.

Sagittarius: Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
The Archer
Double check your work, the simple mistakes are the ones over looked. Show everyone that you can handle your workload and have fun at the same time. Your honest out look on life makes you appear angelic; a white lie never hurt anyone. Your lucky number is 1.

Capricorn: Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The Goat
Let old grudges be gone. New ones can be made. Dwelling in the past leaves no room for growth. Your patience goes far, but enough is enough, Get-R-Done. Comic relief always makes the atmosphere easier. In tense moments bring out your light heartedness; you will become the life of the party. Your lucky number is 7.

Aquarius: Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
The Water Carrier
You are an expert at controlling your emotions, although it would be good for you to show how you really feel. People will want to help when you ask for it, don't only rely on yourself; there are others to help. Meet someone new and make a new friend. Your lucky number is 0.

Pisces: Feb. 20 - Mar. 20
The Fishes
Let your internal wall down. Talking helps. It is not healthy to keep all of your feeling bottled up, you will burst one day and it will most likely be on the wrong person. Do something you have always wanted to do. Your lucky number is 12.



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Campus News...

Campus Emergency Line

By Amanda Wozniak

The Public Safety Emergency number is 1111. This number has been set up so that it can only be dialed from on campus telephones and call boxes. It is only an extension. If it is dialed by an off campus phone, as 626-1111, the Lyndonville Savings Bank & Trust, on Broad Street in Lyndonville, will be reached. Public Safety was not aware of this overlap in phone numbers at the time the number was created, Director of Public Safety, Charles Lacaillade said it doesn't matter because it was set up to be used as an extension only. When the number is called from on campus all of the Public Safety office's phones ring to indicate that it is an emergency. If you are contacting Public Safety from off campus you can reach the office at 6432, if the door is closed the call is automatically transferred to the other Public Safety office located next door which can be reached directly at 6452. According to the Lyndonville Savings Bank receptionist, the overlapping number of 1111 has never been an issue.

Suggestion Boxes Underutilized

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Students may notice green suggestion boxes bolted to the walls around campus. The Executive Assistant to the President, Darcie Miles, empties the boxes once every semester. Miles looks over the suggestions and sorts out the ones that seem the most reasonable. She then sends them to LSC President, Carol Moore, who looks over them and sends them to the appropriate dean.

Miles only sees about five to ten suggestions in the boxes every semester. "They're underutilized," she said. Out of all the suggestions Miles has seen, there have been more than a few impractical ones. Keeping all of the offices open 24 hours a day among others. Many suggestions however have been doable. Having more vegetarian options in the snack bar was one such suggestion.

Many of the suggestions are anonymous. If someone making a suggestion wishes to leave contact information he or she will be contacted.

Career Services Help

By Valerie Pierce

The middle of the semester has come very quickly and some students are thinking about what they need to do to choose or begin their careers. Here at Lyndon State College there is an office dedicated to that purpose. Linda Wacholder, director of Career Services, offers a widespread amount of services that are helpful to students.

Wacholder informs students about the services that they may need depending on their year. This is done by sending out cards to freshman, fliers to sophomores, graduate school books to juniors and job ideas for seniors. Graduate Surveys are done to see how and what students are doing after college.

A few of the services that are provided are: help finding a major, studying for the praxis, and setting up interviews or doing job search-

es. Students are encouraged to visit whenever they need any of these services. These are available to every student. A complete list of services can be found on the LSC website under Offices and Services (Career Services).

There is a new Job posting system that can be found at www.Lyndonstate.edu/careers. On this system students can register, answer a couple of questions about job preferences, and have a "Job Agent". This "Job Agent" will send out listings that LSC receives that are of interest to particular students.

The Career Services Office can be found in Vail 318. It is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Meetings can be arranged by appointment or by stopping in. Wacholder can also be contacted by Email.

Vscnet Use Policy

By Kelly Colby

In order to access the Vermont State Colleges' computer network it is necessary to agree to a "Conditions of Use Policy." VSC students and other users of the network are well aware of this necessity as a pop-up button requires agreement before logging onto the network. What is often less clear is just what the policy entails. The actual text of the policy is something that is all too frequently ignored, but is readily available from several areas. The conditions within the policy are designed to prevent illegal activity, avoid unauthorized access, and keep the network running smoothly for all the users. Violations of the rules within the policy can lead to strict penalties and in some cases have helped the IT department to identify problems for the network and correct them.

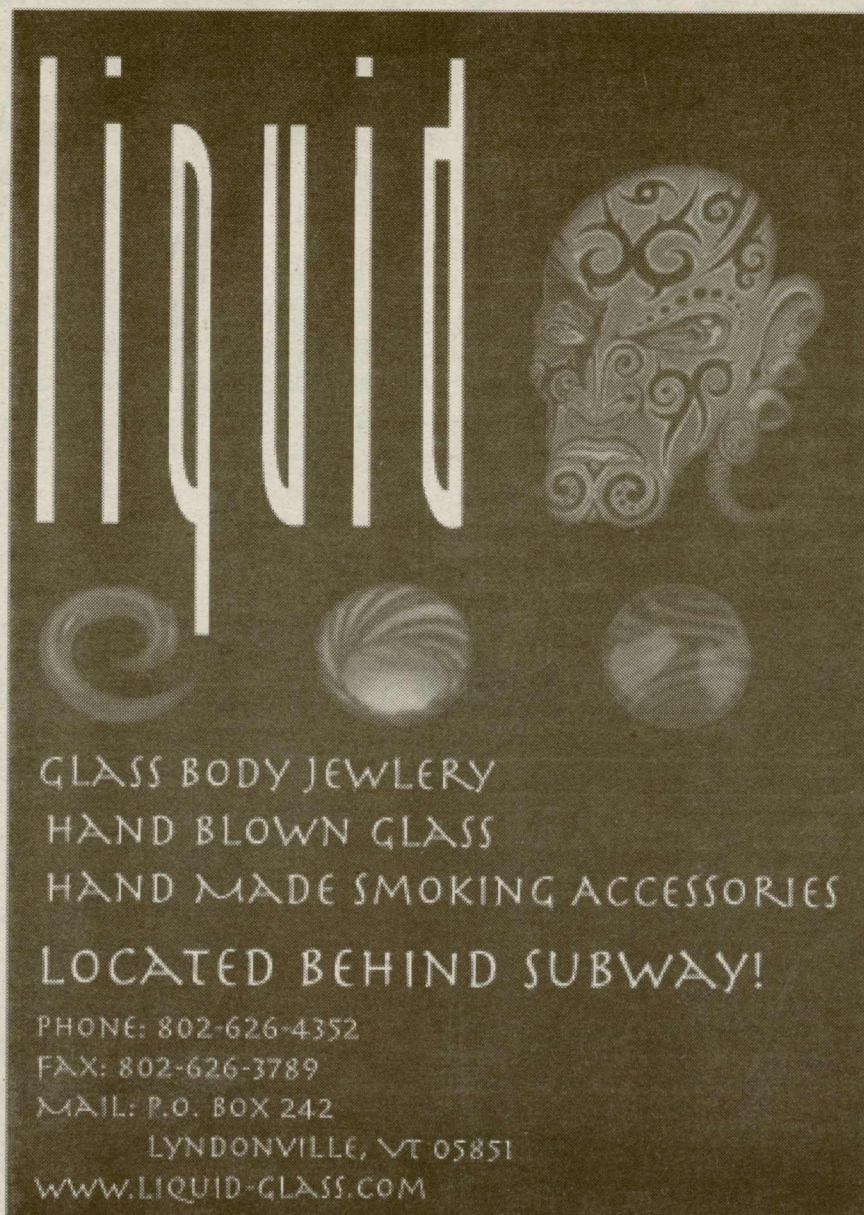
The text of the policy is available from several locations. Students can ask the IT department for a copy. It is available on the web at both the IT website and on the main menu of Blackboard. It is also part of the information that is given to all incoming freshmen with their orientation materials.

The policy itself consists of 24 separate rules. The rules cover a variety of circumstances prohibiting various illegal activities, unauthorized forms of access, and activities which might damage the system or unnecessarily inhibit appropriate access by users. Violations of the policy carry penalties that vary from

the issuance of a warning to expulsion from the university depending on the severity.

In some cases violations of the policy have led to changes in the operation of the network. In regards to past violations Mike Dente, Head of the IT Department said "Yes, we use to have between 6 and 10 violations per semester." Some of that has changed now. The violations that Dente was referring to had been illegal piracy of copy written material, mostly music files. These violations had been brought to the attention of network administrators by the Recording Industry Association of America. The RIAA had threatened legal action against both the VSC and the individual offenders. A solution to this problem actually led to a better running system in several areas.

The IT Department added a hardware device which monitors bandwidth and prevents the operation of programs which make such downloading possible. The packet shaping hardware in addition to monitoring bandwidth allows the network to automatically prioritize resources. This system allows the network to allocate resources to educational and administrative functions first, then non-recreational uses and communications and lastly to recreational and entertainment uses. This change not only prevents further illegal activity, but allows for uninterrupted use of the network for legitimate educational pursuits.



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The Importance of Being Ernest

By Kerri Sgarlata

Member of the Twilight Players

John Walker, advisor to the Twilight Players, is at it again. In the past he has introduced us to dysfunctional families, turned the twilight theater into a baseball clubhouse, and made Shakespeare look easy. All the while making us laugh hysterically, cry uncontrollably, and manage to forget where it was we parked our cars only a short two hours before. He has reopened the option of studying theater both behind stage in production and on stage in performing; in and out of the classroom. Walker can be found here on campus late into the night working on blocking, set building, and rehearsing. The irony in this is that Walker has accomplished all of this in only four very short semesters. So what is he up to this time? Well, ladies and gentlemen, it is the Wilde's hilarious comedy The Important of Being Earnest.

The Importance of Being Earnest is a world-known comedic play by the playwright Oscar Wilde. Set in London in the late 1890s, and ironically opening on Valentines Day, it is a story of high society socialites that live the life of the rich and famous. It is a humorous take on the high standards of love for both men and women and where twists and turns do indeed take place. With more syllables than Dawson's Creek, and more dysfunction than the Real World, these characters contain all the traits to make you feel as if your life were normal. The man, the woman,

and of course the intervening mother are only a few of many that play a significant part in confusing one another and entertaining everyone in the mean time. The inspiration? The playwright himself! Wilde took a spin off his own double life, only weeks before serving two years in jail for doing so (public indecency), by creating two young men that share mirror image identities. He was able to identify the pretense of the Victorian society and unravel it to the outside world. It was an eye opener for the common man and somewhat of an embarrassment for the "higher society," it was all of the naked truth which made them

much more ordinary and far less interesting. The axis between his life and theirs made this work of his a work of art instead. With the high levels of trust, impression, and well...being earnest, this play is far more witty and amusing than that of most comedies written in the modern day. The Importance of Being Earnest is full of grace, style, and charm.

The LSC Twilight Players rehearse Monday and Wednesday evenings. They will be performing the weekend of December 2nd, 3rd, & 4th at 8:00pm, both Friday and Saturday and at 2:00pm on Sunday.

The Lyndon State College Twilight Players have decided on their Fall Semester play. The chosen play, Importance of Being Ernest by Oscar Wilde, is scheduled to open the first weekend of December with shows Friday December 2, Saturday December 3 at 8 PM and Sunday December 4 at 2 PM. It is intended that some of the dress rehearsals be open to LSC students only.

The decision on which play to perform was part of a larger plan for the Twilight Players over the next two semesters. This overall plan includes another play for the spring semester and the possibility of a full musical in the fall. John Walker, Director of the play and Advisor to the Twilight Players said about the selections "Last year we did some pretty serious pieces with complex themes by American playwrights. This year I had one particular play in mind for the spring and by doing Ernest I can see what the talent pool is like with all the new freshmen."

The auditions for Ernest brought in around 25 to 30 actors with far more women auditioning than men. Walker suggested that future auditions might have to be opened to the public in order to increase the number of available male actors. Overall, the director indicated that he was very happy with the quality of the actors he had to choose from and said "there were a lot of very talented freshmen! Which is good, because last year we had several very talented actors graduate."

Dr. Beth Norris and the Community Orchestra

By Megan Renaud

Elizabeth Norris, the director of liberal studies at LSC is the conductor of an orchestra that practices and performs here on campus. The orchestra is made up of community members who are able to perform the pieces in the short time they have to practice. They practice Sunday nights from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Norris started the orchestra back in 2004. They held their first meeting in January and their first concert in May of 2004. Sunday, November 13th at 7:00 p.m. in the Alexander Twilight Theater they will hold their fourth concert. It is free and open to the public. They will be playing Edvard Greig's Peer Gynt Suite #1 which is a Norwegian Composition, Beethoven's Egmont Overture, Strauss Waltz, and a Christmas piece by Vaughan Williams. They will also be playing a short piece by Ford called In the Fading Light of

Autumn which Norris is excited about. "The horn section blows into their horns. It sounds like beautiful wind," she said.

There are four LSC students in this orchestra. Heather Frigon is a freshman and she holds the single most important job in the orchestra. She is the concert master and is second in command. She is in charge of all the tunings and bowings. Jonathan Cunningham is a senior in the honors program and plays the trumpet. Rozz Semprebon is a non-traditional student who plays the French horn and has been with the orchestra since the beginning. Finally, Audrey Saucier, a music miner and liberal studies major, plays the cello.

"We have people from all walks of life," said Norris with a chuckle. There are veterinarians, pediatricians, bankers, St. Johnsbury Academy students, teachers, and even a professional violin maker from Glover. There are two members who record professionally in New York and there is a family of three girls, the Marcott sisters, whose father helped get the orchestra started.

Their youngest member is Zoe D'olimpio who is only 10 and their oldest member is well into her eighties. However, she will not be unable to perform at this concert due to a broken wrist.

Norris speaks with amazement as she talks about the orchestra that she conducts. The passion in her voice for what she does floods what she talks about. "It's amazing what we have in our own back yard," said Norris as she did the math of what an average orchestra member would make. "\$70,000 per year and we do it all for free," she said. After doing some quick math she figured that her entire orchestra should be earning about half a million dollars for the work they do.

Beth Norris and her orchestra will be doing some fund raising in the future because they need to buy some timpani's. You can contact Beth Norris here on campus about joining the orchestra or donating towards their timpani's. For now, come to the concert Sunday, November 10th at 7:00 p.m. and show your support for this amazing orchestra of volunteers.

Becoming the Northeast Kingdom

By Valerie Pierce

The Northeast Kingdom is made up of Caledonia, Essex and Orleans Counties. The Moose River Campground Web Site describes the Northeast Kingdom as having "Highlands and valleys, expansive forests, rolling farmland, pristine rivers and lakes." When the phrase Northeast Kingdom is used, some people know what region that name refers to, while others do not.

The naming of the "Kingdom" wasn't planned, however once it was used the name was accepted and embraced. The history of the name began Nov. 10, 1949 at the Darling Inn in Lyndonville. This was when Senator George Aiken was speaking at a Northeastern Vermont Development Meeting. Graham Newell, Former LSC Professor, remembers Aiken labeling these counties as "The Northeast Kingdom" for the first time when he said: "You know, this is such beautiful country up here, it should be called The Northeast Kingdom,"

Newell mentioned that when he was young, he traveled with his grandfather in a horse and buggy to different towns visiting local cemeteries. The names and dates on gravestones caused Newell to become interested in the history of this area. In the 1920's there was a dirt road connecting St. Johnsbury to Lyndon, Newell said, instead of the paved Route 5 that we know today.

According to www.travelthekingdom.com the Northeast Kingdom makes up almost one-fifth of Vermont's Land Mass. Another Vermont site, www.linkvermont.com, said there are one hundred and twenty-three towns and villages in the tri-county area.

By Megan Renaud The Kingdom's 50th anniversary was celebrated in 1999 with a gathering at the Darling Inn. Vermont Governor, Howard Dean, named November 10th Northeast Kingdom Day in Vermont.

Sports...

Women's Basketball Preview

By Jake Mardin

Coach: David Mellor

Assistant Coach: Rachel Maxwell

Last years record: 22-7, Sunrise Conference Champs

Roster:

Nichole Arel, G, sr.

Lindsay Calkins, G, fr.

Sara Fetterhoff, F, fr.

Krystle Gould, F, so.

Elizabeth Hall, G, fr.

Whitney Hoyt, F/G, so.

Mindy Morehouse, G, sr.

Kagan Prouty, G, jr.

Holly Scott, G, fr.

Alicia Shedd, F, sr.

Jackie Wetzel, F/G, fr.

Jen White, F, fr.

Graduation losses:

Rachel Maxwell, Jamie Rosso, Kate Powell, Ilene Dickinson

After winning their first Sunrise Conference championship, the Hornets are looking to make another title run. Despite losing several key players, the Hornets display enough depth to help them repeat as champs.

This year the team will be lead by captains Nichole Arel and Alicia Shedd, who was named to the All-Conference 2nd Team. Also, there are six freshmen joining the team, who coach Dave Mellor says are meshing well with the veterans. "The new players have picked things up quickly," Mellor said.

Four seniors were lost to graduation last year. Rachel Maxwell was the team's leading scorer for the four years she was on the team and was a two time Sunrise Conference Player of the Year. Jamie Rosso was twice named to the All-

Conference 1st Team and was the second leading scorer and a tremendous all-around player. Rosso set and LSC record for most three point field goals. Kate Powell was a scorer and the team's best post player. Ilene Dickinson will also be missed for her strong defensive presence.

Etter expects a strong performance from his team this year, expecting different players to score on different nights. This year's team is balanced and he considers his group to be deeper than other teams. Other teams have also had significant losses and may not be able to recover.

The Hornets will play against the Alumni on Oct. 29 at 5:30 p.m. The team will play their regular season opener at home against Paul Smiths College on Nov. 12 at 4 p.m.

Sports officials needed

By Jonny Butt

Like Sports? Need \$15? The St Johnsbury Recreation Department would like to employ anyone who might be interested in officiating sports games. The sports in need include soccer, volleyball, and basketball. Grade levels for competition are 3/4th and 5/6th with the pay being the same at \$15 per game. Soccer games, which are already being played, are normally scheduled twice a week at approximately 4:30 or 5pm, as well as on Saturday.

Randall Rathburn Jr., of the St Johnsbury Recreation Department, addressed the need for additional help. "We're always in need of volunteers and would be glad to work out some service hours for anyone that could use them." said

Rathburn. The month of November is quickly approaching and that is when volleyball and basketball will really pick up pace. As of right now, volleyball is scheduled for Monday nights and basketball will be a couple of times during the week. There will be further grade levels added soon including 6/7th and 7/8th; meaning even more opportunities to make some easy money in a low stress environment. If officiating isn't your thing there are also other positions available. "Anyone who might also be interested in coaching basketball is encouraged to call as well." said Rathburn. If you or anyone you know is interested in these opportunities please contact Randall Rathburn at 748-8414.

Men's Basketball Preview

By Jake Mardin

Coach: Eric Berry

The Hornets are looking to improve on a .500 mark last year and make a run towards a championship. The team has several new players this season and hopes a blend of experience and youth will lead them to success.

The team will need to perform without three of its stars from last season, as Chris Brown, Kevin Trask, and Travis Morehouse were lost to graduation. Brown served as a presence not only on the court but in the classroom and community as well, while Trask was an outstanding scorer and Morehouse was a great defensive player.

There are several standout

players on this year's roster. Chris Dorsey, a transfer student from Michigan, is expected to perform and be a presence on the court. Both the 6'3" Alex Ibey and the 6'8" Brad Durr will be relied on heavily as low post players, and Kellen George is expected to provide a spark off the bench and be an all-around leader. Coach Eric Berry said this team has more depth and talent than last year's team.

The Hornets will play their first regular season game on the road Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. against Vermont Technical College. On Nov. 12 at 2 p.m., LSC will host Paul Smiths College for their home opener.

Halloween And Upcoming Events

By Jake Mardin

There are several upcoming activities on campus for the next two weeks. Along with Halloween events, there are several other events on the schedule.

The LSC Fun/Spirit Committee has several events planned on campus to celebrate Halloween, including trick-or-treating and a costume contest. All events will take place Oct. 31 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The first event is trick-or-treating for students. Trick-or-treat bags can be found in the Vail Copy Center. If there is a trick-or-treat sign outside an office, stop in to receive a treat. No costume is needed to trick-or-treat.

At 11 a.m., students may gather in the theater lobby for the LSC community contest. A photo will be taken and will be sent to the Lyndon Area Chamber of Commerce for judging.

Also, in the lobby at 11:05 a.m., there will be a student and

faculty/staff costume contest. There will be prizes awarded for the best costumes.

From 10:30 a.m., to 1 p.m., Professor of Fine and Performing Arts, Dorian McGowan, will be doing face painting in the theater lobby. There will also be donuts and cider being served.

In addition to the Halloween activities, there are many upcoming events on campus. Musician Jeremy Harple will be performing in the Student Center on Oct. 27 at 9 p.m. Harple, born and raised in central Vermont, plays a blend of music he refers to as "Rebel Folk," which incorporates many musical genres including rock, bluegrass, and folk.

On Oct. 29, at 8 p.m. in the Alexander Twilight Theater, Vusi Mahlasela, from Pretoria, will give a musical performance to students. This event is also a Horizon Event.

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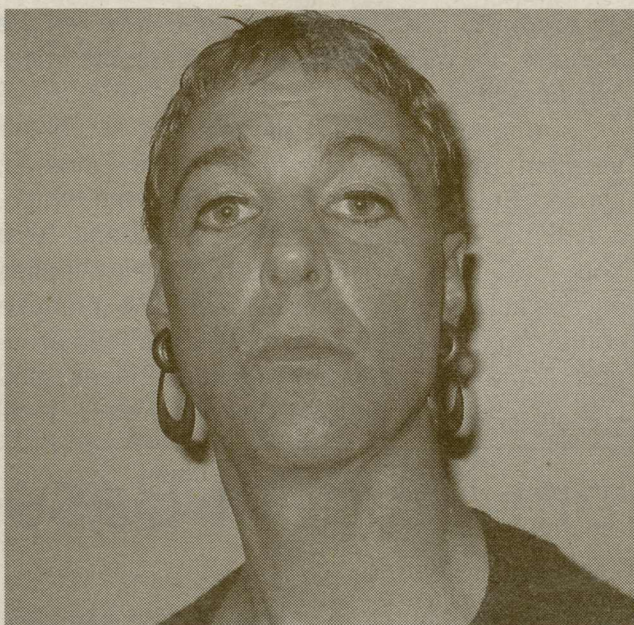
LSC Professor uses role playing to teach gender roles

By Amanda Gilman

Professor Josh Carpenter has a unique prospective when teaching gender roles in his family and community class. Last week he asked his male students to volunteer to participate in an exercise where they would dress as women. Three young men from the class chose to participate; they dressed in feminine clothing that included tight dresses and short skirts. The male students allowed female classmates to apply make-up on them.

This is the fourth year that Carpenter has included a variation of this exercise in one of his family and community classes. The exercise has evolved from Carpenter showing up to class dressed completely as a woman to students participating at their discretion. "This is my way of challenging the notion that people make choices about their gender identity," Carpenter said.

He further stresses that the exercise is meant to be respectful and not in anyway mock women or men who dress as women. "I hope they broaden their prospective and be curious, not judg-



Josh Carpenter

mental," Carpenter said.

This year the exercise had a new and unusu-

al twist as all the men's clothing was "stolen." Carpenter and the students who chose to participate in the exercise had changed their clothing in the Burke Mountain Room, only to have it cleaned up by the Conference Office in preparation for a meeting being held in that room just thirty minutes later. Luckily, the clothing was returned to its rightful owners before the end of the class period.

The exercise was accompanied by a class discussion meant to help students "explore their own values while learning," Carpenter said. The discussion revolves around the social influences of primary care givers.

The exercise was followed up by lessons and exercises that highlight the nature vs. nurture argument and discussion of the annual drag ball put on by the Gay Straight Alliance on campus. The drag ball is held every spring and students are invited from all of the Vermont State Colleges.

Suspect Apprehended for "Peeping Incident"

By Sara Morehouse

A man was recently being investigated and was arrested for what is being called a "peeping incident". He is reported to have been seen on a few college campuses around the states of Vermont and New Hampshire.

According to the Burlington Free Press, a 25-year-old Scott Nitchie was suspected of peeping on women taking showers in a female residence hall at the University of Vermont (UVM) on October 3. He was picked up by the Shelburne police. The UVM police were called in and Nitchie was questioned. However, upon the determination that they could not charge him with the crime, he was driven to Ferrisburgh and released. "We couldn't arrest him, and he said he wanted to go south, so the officers obliged," said Police Sgt. Allen Fortin.

Nitchie, according to the Burlington Free Press, was on the Middlebury College campus and was "a suspicious male on campus approaching and bothering some female students" October 7 and 8. Nitchie was escorted off campus by Middlebury College Public Safety.

On Sunday (October 17),

Nitchie was arrested while on the campus of the University of New Hampshire in Durham. He was found after "refusing to leave a Residence Hall".

If a student on the Lyndon State College campus were to discover anyone acting suspicious or watching them in the showers of their residence hall, they are urged to call Public Safety. "Pay attention to the description, in case he flees before we get there," Charles Lacaille, Director of Public Safety, said. Public Safety will get to the scene as soon as possible and call in the Vermont State Police as well.

Not Just the Winter Blues

By Amanda Gigliotti

It seems that winter is here whether welcomed or not. This is the time for skiing, snowball fights and Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). The Winter Blues Information Network estimates that roughly 6% of the U.S. population may suffer from SAD and it is not uncommon for this disorder to be misdiagnosed.

Linda Leach, Technical Academic Secretary at Lyndon State College, described the disorder as "...your biological clock [getting] messed up." Being a sufferer of SAD for approximately twenty years herself, she said that "it is a lot more common than people think." To ease her symptoms, she

goes out and does things that she likes, such as shopping. This helps her a lot because it gets the focus off the disorder. For Leach, she feels the effects more in the fall towards the end of summer as the weather becomes cooler, leaves fall from the trees and with sunshine decreasing. Her ideal place in retirement 'would be to spend January, February, and March in a sunny, warmer location."

Dr. Ronald Rossi, professor of psychology, says that [Seasonal Affective Disorder] is biologically based, definitely having to do with the length of the days." He explained that as one gets less sun-

See Blues Pg. 4

Governor Attends Rita Bole Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Vermont State Governor, Jim Douglas, attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Rita Bole Complex. He spoke to those in attendance about the importance of the new facility and its role in attracting students to the college.

"It is important that colleges across Vermont do as much as they can to meet students needs," Douglas said. High school graduates are going out of state for their higher education and Vermont campuses need to

stay competitive, Douglas said in his address to those present in the Rita Bole Community Room.

In a later interview, Douglas elaborated on his views for higher education in Vermont. Affordability was Douglas' main issue. State investment plans and tax reductions for those going to college are some of the things Vermont is doing to aid in higher education, Douglas said. Vermont has risen from 49th to 47th in national standings for academic sup- See Gov. Pg. 4

Hard News...

LSC's Food; Origins and Why It Won't Change

By Sarah Donaghy

Many LSC students complain about the food available on campus and many may want better tasting choices but there is little chance of McDonalds or Pizza Hut suddenly moving on campus.

Food selection from Aramark is based on food surveys sent out via email to students and staff. If there is enough support for programs or foods then the school will try them out. Stone even said that he would be "willing to make accommodations for kiosks" if contracted vendors like McDonalds or Taco Bell were wanted on campus. That decision, however, would have to come from the school and the surveys.

These vendors will probably not be coming to campus anytime soon though. They only tend to go under contract with schools much larger than LSC because they need to have a large enough profit to make it worthwhile. This means that they need to make thousands of dollars a week from the on campus profits, which is unlikely to be the case on small campuses, and their profit comes

from only a percentage of the sales. To become contracted with LSC through Aramark they would also have to meet nutrition standards with their selection that many fast food chains cannot.

To see kiosks on campus in the next few years LSC would also have to experience an exponential growth that the span of our campus cannot hold. This does not mean that the choices of food cannot come closer to those the kiosks would be able to provide but that depends on Aramark, LSC employees, and how far the students are willing to speak up to fuel their specific appetites.

Aramark is the food provider for the entire Vermont State college system. While most of Lyndon State College's food comes from Sysco, a national company based out of Albany, New York, LSC tries to get as much of their supplies as possible from local providers. The produce comes from Sid Wainer, a company whose products come from Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, and the dairy comes from a local

company called Booth Bros.

When LSC gets their food from closer locations it means that there is less chance of spoilage in transport. The food comes to LSC in refrigerated trucks and upon arrival is checked and approved for freshness. Afterwards it is dated and entered into the first-in-first-out system used by the college.

Tadd Stone, the food service director at LSC who has worked with Aramark for seven years at many different locations, meets monthly with other members of the LSC staff to help come up with better ideas for students. Currently they are planning to make the meals more vegetarian friendly by stopping cross contamination with meat products in the cooking process and adding a vegan station in the cafeteria. While staffing issues have kept the vegan station from starting so far it should be up and running in the Stevens Dining Hall in a few weeks.

Lyndon Rescue, From Student Based to Full Time

By Amanda Gigliotti

Sirens are wailing. An ambulance rushes past. Lyndon Rescue is off on another adventure. Starting in the mid 1970s, Lyndon Rescue first served as a college based service, which meant that the squad was solely run by students and volunteers. In 1995, it became a corporation, funded and supported by the towns it covers such as Burke, Kirby, Sheffield and Wheelock.. In total, the crew covers two hundred and fifty square miles. Shawn Hannux, Training Coordinator for Lyndon Rescue, said that the way

the rescue squad has changed since the past is that "there are now fulltime people, with careers, and a bigger budget."

According to the school's website, "Lyndon rescue works closely with regional emergency medical providers to offer opportunities for pre-hospital emergency medical training. The squad serves as a host for training of new emergency medical technicians, as well as for continuing education training of EMT's at all levels."

Lyndon Rescue has a staff of six

fulltime, eight part time and about a dozen volunteers, with an age range of 18 to 31. With the overall crew, they range from no experience to twenty years of experience. The number of members changes as the amount of college students joining increase and decrease. The college is a big recruiter for part time members because there is an EMT class offered in the fall semester and an individual can join the squad in the spring.

The squad is organized in a hierarchy, with the Board of Directors at the

top. Meeting once a month, they oversee everything that is involved with the crew. Next, the Director checks on things and goes to the board if necessary. The Operations/Assistant Director deals with the personnel, scheduling and grants. The Training Coordinator takes the calls. The Duty Crew, which are fulltime workers, works twenty-four hour shifts.

When a person joins Rescue, there is a process involved. First, an individual with a CPR card can go on ride-alongs. Then the person has a

See Rescue Pg. 4

Rock Out With Your Guitar Out

By Megan Renaud

Jean Charles, a part-time faculty member in the Fine & Performing Arts department, is starting a guitar club for all who are interested. He has been teaching students how to play the guitar for a few years. Over a dozen students have shown interest in the club via e-mail, but he is looking for more to come and play

Charles, a native of Haiti, has had a personal interest in the guitar since he was a teenager. "I used to always carry it around," Charles said. At the catholic school he attended he also learned how to play the clarinet. However, his heart is truly with the classical guitar.

Although Charles focuses on the classical guitar, the club is open for any type of music, from jazz to rag time, and can include those who just enjoy listening to people play. There is no set agenda for these meetings besides students coming together and playing. "Those who have it in their hearts can't



drop [the guitar]," he said. "It's not an addiction, it's a love," Charles said.

The thing Charles loves most about the guitar and music is that there are no limits. He envi-

sions this club to be a way for guitarists to play, sing if they want, and to learn from each other by sharing their learning experiences. "It can also develop friendships," he said as he remembered back 20 years ago to a man named Josh who he used to play with. "It's a productive and healthy and enjoyable experience," Charles said.

If students are shy or unsure about their singing talents Jean Charles offers this advice: "Most think they can't but they can. If you can speak you can sing. Only you yourself can stop you."

The main goals of this club are to provide a place for guitarists to play with one another, to give students who like to listen to the guitar the opportunity, and to share and develop student's guitar techniques through new friendships.

If you would like to contact Jean Charles about this club his phone number is (802)-626-6401. His Voicemail extension is 3663.

Editorials...

Complaints from dorm student and the administrations response

We received this letter to the editor and invited the administration to respond.

"As a member of the Lyndon State College community I will make a sincere effort to...Communicate openly, honestly and respectfully with others." - LSC Promise

Many of the LSC students feel their college experience is being ruined because they have to pay fines for everything and get put on probation for nothing. So far over 130 students have signed a petition against the LSC administration. This school's administration lies to its students and takes their money. Since when is an education about the money and not the knowledge and experience we obtain? I came to Lyndon State College to grow as an individual and become an adult, not to continue to go to high school and be babysat.

The policies of this school are bias and only pertain to some students. What is LSC teaching us about equality and respect if they are not doing it themselves? I am a student of the legal drinking age and I was put on probation for refusing to take an alcohol awareness. Resident Hall Director Kate Murphy, explained to me, forgetting to take the test and refusing to take the test are both punished with probation. Another student was not put on probation for forgetting to take the test. He was given another chance to take it.

Several students have also been fined for drinking, when they had not even had a drop of alcohol the entire night. Students have been in the same room as some of their friends who were drinking and were forced to pay a fine because of it. Are students supposed to say, "I'm sorry, I cannot hangout with you tonight because you are drinking. I don't want to get fined." Now we have to pay to hangout with our friends?

According to one of the school

counselors, the school policy regarding drinking has students attend counseling at the Brown House after being caught drinking for the second time. Is this what I pay my \$20,000 a year for, to pay for other students to go to counseling when they do not have a problem to begin with? This is a waste of money and the counselor's time. These counselors should be helping students with real problems, not problems the administration jumps to conclusions about. At Brown University in Rhode Island, where this particular counselor's son attends, the administration does not send its students for counseling unless they have been sent to the hospital or have been puking because of alcohol. They let the students grow and learn about life on their own. They guide the student, they do not order them to complete tasks and fine them if they choose not to.

It is not just the drinking policies that have students losing their money; it is the housing too. At the beginning of the semester several underclassmen were put into the new Rita Bole Complex because there was no room in any other dorms. These students were charged an extra \$746 for the fall semester when they were told by administration they would not have to pay extra. When these students went to go get the full \$746 back, not all of them were given the full amount back. When I went to get my \$746 back, Jonathan Davis, Director of Student Life, gave me an ultimatum. Davis told me I could get the full \$746 if I move out of Rita Bole or I can get \$250 and stay by requesting a single.

Why are some students getting all the money back? Why are some students given an ultimatum just to get some money back? Why do some students have to fight just to receive money back?

The Response...

To the Editor:

I have reviewed a copy of a letter that was sent to the President's Office, which, at the time of review and response, was anonymous. The letter outlines several issues that some students seemed to be very concerned about in the residence halls. I encourage all students to take advantage of opportunities to provide feedback about services that are provided on campus as well as policies that are enforced. As an LSC staff member, I am always open to student feedback about how we can better the quality of life for students living in the residence halls. Come in and talk about it with me. Bring your friends. I also suggest getting involved with the LSC Student Government Association and attending LSC Community Meetings.

I assure you that we have and will continue to address some of these issues, for example, residence halls rooms that were excessively hot in September and the Internet. The reality is that no matter how sincere our intentions to try and create a high-quality living environment in the residence halls are, we will face challenges that are difficult to overcome. My hope is to work with students collaboratively to overcome these challenges when they occur.

Thank you for your feedback.

Jonathan Davis

Director of Student Life

E-mail: jonathan.davis@lyndon-state.edu

Phone: 802.626.6418

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The Critic is looking for motivated students to fill the following positions.

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Letters

The Critic

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To the Editor:

In the October 21, 2005, number of The Critic, one of your staff reporters writes that the grant that our Marilyn Davis shares with colleagues (sic) at Johnson, Castleton, Champlain and UVM is for a dollar and forty cents (spread over three years). It's hard to do much with so little money.

By comparison, the \$20,000 you mention in your editorial that you spend a year on your college education (not just for tuition fees, by the way, but also for room and board, etc.) does indeed seem like a lot. Perhaps your money is helping to pay for part of Professor Davis's port-

folio project, other educational matters, research equipment, faculty and staff salaries (the paltriness of which you quite rightly lament), snow removal, electric lighting, maintenance of the buildings. You are right, of course, that you are paying a lot. And you are also right that you aren't really getting anything like hotel conditions (heat when you want, lots of little soap packets, disposable paper products regularly replenished, freshly laundered shower curtains).

Then again, this place isn't a hotel. It's an institution of higher learning trying to survive on one of the lowest dollars-per-capita state support schedules of any state in the country. If you real-

ly object to conditions of life here, complain to the Chancellor's office, and to your legislator, not to the College.

And try to get the proof-reading right. It's upsetting to see such gaffes as "I find that the cleanliness of the suite bathrooms are less than admirable." I am, as you point out, underpaid for my teaching (to students like you who do not heed my instruction). Perhaps you are getting just about what you deserve out of this place.

Or were you just scrambling for something to quickly write about?

Bill Biddle, English Department

United Nations Representative Pays Visit to LSC

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Alexandre Strokanov, Associate Professor of History, invited United Nations Ambassador, Alisher Vohidov of Uzbekistan, to the Alexander Twilight Theater to speak with the LSC community Monday (October 17th). Vohidov opened the talk by showing a brief educational video on his country. The video showcased Uzbekistan's history, culture, and economic situation.

Although Vohidov spoke English he used Russian to speak to those present in the theater. Strokanov helped the discussion by acting as a translator for Vohidov. Aside from the short video presentation, Vohidov had not prepared to say anything else. Dialogue is preferable over monologue, he said.

Students and faculty present asked a range

of questions. One person wanted to know if the Uzbeks preferred life under the Soviet Union as opposed to being an independent state. "As a rule, no," Vohidov said. He went on to add "We need to have appreciating memory towards the past."

Other questions involved Uzbekistan's role in the war on terror. Vohidov talked about Uzbekistan having problems with Afghanistan and terrorism prior to 9/11. Uzbekistan aided the United States in the Afghanistan invasion by letting them use the K2 air base that lies near the Northern Afghani border.

Vohidov was also asked to comment on the link between Islam and terrorism. The two should not be linked directly, Vohidov said. The goal of

terrorists is destruction, not creation, and that religion of all kinds is a powerful tool for control. "Islam is a peace loving and peace encouraging religion," Vohidov said.

Currently, Vohidov is working on the coming reform of the UN. Issues with the UN Security Council are being discussed. These issues involve the power and responsibilities of the Security Council members, he said.

Vohidov is married, has two children and a granddaughter. He's seen the East Coast of the United States and parts of the West Coast and finds the landscape to be beautiful. Vohidov doesn't use a chauffeur. He prefers driving himself around.

Fitness Center Paving Priorities on Campus Floods

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Minor flooding occurred sometime Sunday (October 4) in the Fitness Center. The water came in through the pool filter room after a sump pump malfunction, Custodial Supervisor, David Wood, said. The water that came in was fresh and did not originate from a sewer pipe. Where the water came from to fill the pump isn't clear. Excess rainwater is not a large suspect.

Auto-scrubbers were used to vacuum up most of the water. After the water had been removed box fans were used to dry up what the auto-scrubber squeegees missed. Some carpets in the Fitness Center had gotten wet. They had to be hung up in the bus barn to dry because of the wet weather. They were also sprayed with disinfectant to prevent mold, Wood said. There was no damage to any equipment in the Fitness Center.

The sump pumps are supposed to begin pumping out water when a float switch is tripped inside them. A float switch is essentially a floating switch that flips when rising water levels buoy it up. For reasons unknown, the float switches in the pool filter room did not trip.

Wood has been working at LSC for nearly a year and half. This is the first time he has seen such a flood. There is no official plan to deal with a major flood should it occur at LSC. The likelihood of a serious flood at the college is low, Wood said.

By Amanda Gigliotti

It seems that the town of Lyndonville is literally a part of the Lyndon State College. Recent paving has been done in different places around campus at LSC. There were some internal walkways done, the Wheelock road and parking lot, and pathways to Stonehenge from three directions. These projects took three summers to complete. The maintenance parking lot was the last section to be done and it has not been paved since the 1970's, when the maintenance building was built.

"It, (referring to the strip by the Stonehenge parking lot), used to be a town road until the library was there," Jim Gallagher, Physical Plant Director, explained why paving that area is not a high enough priority. "The road starts by Maintenance and runs right through campus," coming out by the Brown House. Another section that cannot be paved is the Vail Hill dip because it is part of a town road as well. The Vail Hill dip is the section of road that is uneven after you go straight through the intersection.

As for the future, there are a few projects in mind. The first is Upper campus road, which is the one by

the soccer field and the White house, and more walkways will be done. Next year is the Vail parking lot. This project has to be well designed because there are many things that need to be done. The large dip on the Vail hill intersection may be evened out more as it may be a part of the Upper Campus road project.

Paving priority is determined by which areas are the worst off. It also depends on how far money can be stretched. A Capitol project is a process that one needs to go through when it comes to the funding for paving. First, the maintenance department needs to identify the places that need attention on campus. Then they need to develop a project that shows what is going to be done, and put in a request for funding which is then given to Legislature during the summer. One project can be requested year after year, as only a small number get approved. This is a long process that can take months to develop, depending on the size of the area. Gallagher is in charge of the Capitol projects for L.S.C.

Blue Continued from pg 1

light, there is a build up of melatonin, the chemical that makes one groggy and sleepy. Melatonin is produced in the dark from serotonin. As serotonin levels fall this results in depression.

According to the Winter Blues Information Network, some symptoms of this disorder include sleep problems, overeating, depression, and lethargy. The symptoms tend to start around September each year, lasting until April but are the worst in the darkest months, according to Dr. Gila Lindsley, Ph.D., ACP.

In treating this disorder, there are a few things that one can do. A common treatment is phototherapy or bright light therapy. Today there are special alarms clocks where a light is connected to a timer and this acts like a sunrise. Also, according to the Depression and Mood Disorders Association, one can also exercise outside, stay on a regular sleep schedule, and dress warm to alleviate their symptoms.

For more information, one may contact their doctor or the Health and Counseling Services office at LSC at 626-6440.

Gov. Continued from pg. 1

port. Not all of Vermont's aid has been finances for students. The recent disaster in New Orleans caused Vermont to send 125 members of its National Guard to the damaged city. Douglas was preparing financial aid for Katrina victims the day after the hurricane hit. "I don't wait for the feds," Douglas said. Vermont also sent 14 ambulances along with their crews to Texas to help with disaster relief there. Vermont also offered National Guard troops to New Hampshire during the recent floods. New Hampshire declined the troops but did accept the assistance of Vermont swift water rescue teams, Douglas said.

Among those in attendance to cut the yellow ribbon were State Governor Jim Douglas, President of LSC, Carol Moore, and the Chancellor of Vermont State Colleges, Robert Clarke. Douglas said he prefers cutting ribbons with actual scissors as opposed to the oversized ceremonial ones. "They cut better," Douglas said.

Rescue Continued from pg.2

year to become an EMT, where they can take the class offered. A small orientation then follows. While there are no requirements to join, one needs to show an interest and a commitment to the squad. Simply put, Hannux said, "you're either into it or you're not." For more information, please call Lyndon Rescue at 626-1101



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LSC Student Leaves for Active Duty

By Emily Hale

Heading to Rutland, Vermont, Kelly Raymond is leaving LSC to go on active duty for the army. "I miss doing the army stuff," Raymond said in an interview over the Internet. "I fell like I'm actually doing something important when I put on my uniform."

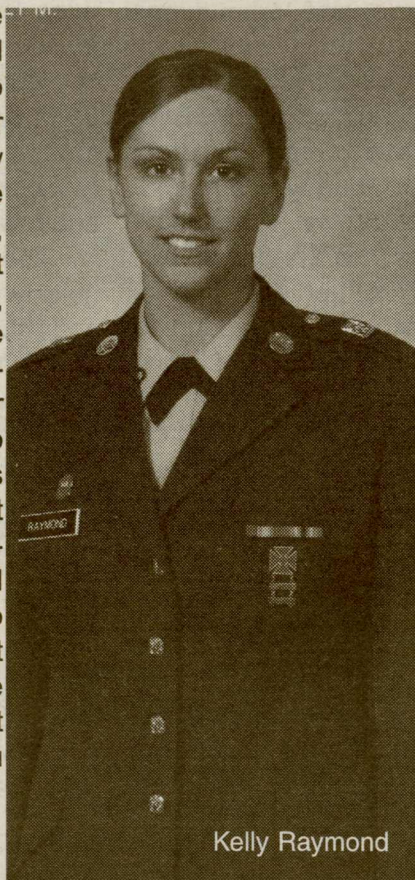
Having grown up in Winterport, Maine, Raymond came to Vermont to earn her bachelor's degree in small business management here at LSC. After having already graduated once, she returned to LSC this year to pursue a degree in accounting while she waited for her call from the army.

Raymond is leaving LSC within the next two weeks now that her request to go from army reservist to active duty has gone through. She was informed just a few weeks before her scheduled departure. "I will miss my friends but I love the military and I'm ready to move on," Raymond said about the switch from school to the military.

Raymond is specialized in carpentry and masonry through the 94th brigade and the 368th C Company. She is an engineer for the army. Raymond will be stationed somewhere in New England after taking her physical and being offered different jobs for her to choose from. Along with Raymond, Mark Lake, Justin Arseneau, and Josh Roman are all LSC stu-

dents who are a part of the same company.

For the next three years, Raymond will be on active duty. She doesn't know yet where the army will take her or if she will ever return to school. Her goals for now are to become a drill sergeant, the 1st sergeant of her company, or to become the commanding officer of her company. To anyone who is thinking about entering the military, Raymond said, "If you go military, don't do it for the money but because you want to."



Kelly Raymond

Handicapped Accessibility

By Valerie Pierce

Here on the LSC campus there are many ways that the buildings are made accessible for handicapped students, faculty and visitors. The campus has ramps, and elevators to make moving around the buildings easier, as well as pathways and close parking spaces around campus.

Jackie Goodwin, custodian, said that there are two resident's halls that are accessible to wheelchairs, Wheelock and the Rita Bole Complex; they both have elevators. Goodwin also said that the Gray house, Dining Hall, LAC and Vail all have ramps or walkways to their entrances. The main campus buildings are nearly all accessible. There are eighteen handicapped parking spaces in the student and faculty parking lots on the LSC campus.

There is one area of the campus that is not handicapped accessible yet, the second floor of the TVS wing. This is in the process of being changed. Jim Gallagher, Director of Maintenance said that plans have been drawn up for an elevator and a chair for the stairs to be added. The elevator would be installed on the outside of the building near the stairs in the TVS wing. In this area it would be easier for people to reach being close to the parking lot. Gallagher said the projected cost of this project would be \$414,128. This is a long-term project that won't be started for a couple of years, until the funding becomes available.

Car Pool, Check out the Ride Board

By Nicholas R. Plante

LSC's Ride board provides a way for students to coordinate rides home over school vacation, if they can find it, said the board's manager, Jonathan Davis.

"I think the board is very attractive but people just don't see it," Davis said. The ride board is located in the hallway entrance to the Student Center. It's to left of the automated teller machine. The board acts as a place where students can post notes to the destination they may be driving to during a break, or places they may need transportation to. The notes students post contain the destination the drivers are going to, the locations where riders need rides from, the dates of travel, and the contact information for both sides to coordinate the transportation. "Our transportation system around here is pretty limited," Davis said. "The resident hall students are

most affected by the ride board because of the distance."

Davis said, he doesn't think the ride board is utilized to its fullest extent. He mentioned the location being a factor in the board's limited use. "One thing we can do is put it in a more visible location," Davis said. "So it attracts more attention and the people can see it."

The board could and should be expanded to be a medium for carpooling, Davis said. "I think what we need to do is make it more attractive to commuter students who want to commute from Derby and places like that," Davis said. "There are some changes we can make to that. Davis said one solution could be moving the board from the hallway to the inside of the Student Center.

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National Novel Writing Contest Enters Seventh Year

By Seth C. Lathrop

For the seventh year in a row, the National Novel Writing Month contest, or NaNoWriMo, is set to run yet again. Begun in the early summer of 1999 as a bet between friends, NaNoWriMo has since then grown into a national and international phenomenon.

Chris Baty, a San Francisco Bay area resident at the time, started the "uncompetitive" contest with a set of a few basic rules; first, you're to write a novel. Second, it has to be at least 50,000 words long, roughly 175 pages. Thirdly, and lastly, you have only one month in which to finish it.

For those first 21 participants, or "competitors," the contest was nothing more than an exercise to see if each of them could pull off the monumental task of setting down so many words in such a short period of time. "Our July noveling binge had little to do with any burning

ambitions we might have harbored on the literary front," said Baty. "We wanted to write novels for the same dumb reasons twenty-somethings start bands."

To their surprise, they were successful. And even more surprising was the fact that they had fun during the experience. "Fun was a revelation. Novel-writing, we had discovered, was just like watching TV," Baty said. "You get a bunch of friends together, load up on caffeine and junk food, and stare at a glowing screen for a couple hours. And a story spins itself out in front of you."

The next year, NaNoWriMo was still going strong, and expanding. They drew in competitors from across the bay area, the United States, and even some from Canada, eventually topping out at 140 people participating. The organizers of the contest even started a Yahoo club for the event, but this eventually brought up more

problems than it solved; people were clamoring for a solid set of rules to follow instead of the loose rules Baty had developed with his friends the year before.

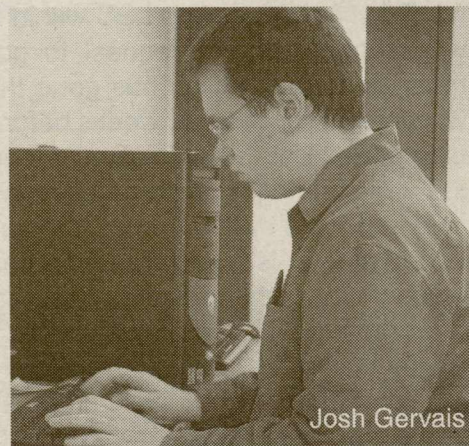
After hammering out a more solid set of rules, which can be found on the contest website (www.nanowrimo.org), the contest again went off without a hitch.

The next four years followed quickly on the heels of the first two, and the contest grew each year, adding more and more contestants. This year there are 35,188 participants, and the month-long period for people to sign up is only half-way gone.

One of those 35,000 contestants is LSC's own Josh Gervais, a second year student who, unlike the contests forebears, is intent on entering the literary field as a professional writer. "But this is just for fun," Gervais said. Gervais also said that as an added bonus, he

would be proving to himself that he could complete something as long as a novel.

So, armed with a few basic ideas and with little plot in mind, Gervais will begin writing at midnight on November 1st along with 35,000 other writers. If anyone wishes to follow his progress, it will be posted at the NaNoWriMo website, in his profile (<http://www.nanowrimo.org/userinfo.php?uid=79943>).



Josh Gervais

LSC Writing Center Looking for Tutors

By Kelly Colby

The writing center is looking for tutors to finish out this semester and tutor next semester as well. The Writing Center, part of the Student Academic Development program at LSC, helps students to improve their writing skills by offering students feedback on writing projects. The Writing Center is also a meeting place for tutors in a variety of academic areas and a resource for students having academic difficulty.

The Writing Center could use about three or four more people as writing tutors, Debra M. Bailin, Director of Student Academic Development said. The Writing Center tries to keep at least two writing tutors on duty during most of the day on Monday through Friday. Bailin said, "Tutors for the Writing Center need to be students with a specific set of skills. Tutors must have writing skill, patience, and the ability to read critically with an eye for structure." In the past the Writing Center did not take applications and operated by recruiting students who had been recommended by other tutors or by faculty.

The Student Academic Development program is designed so that students who find they are having trouble in a particular subject can receive rapid assistance. Students generally come to the Student

Academic Development office and directly ask for tutorial assistance for a specific class. If a tutor is not currently available, the instructor of the class is contacted and asked to make an announcement that the Student Academic Development program is looking for a tutor for his or her class, Bailin said. In this way tutors can be obtained for specific classes who are familiar with the requirements and instruction style of that class. "We always set up tutors for Anatomy and Physiology, Physics, Accounting, and other especially challenging courses without request," Bailin said.

"The Writing Center is a place where you can get feedback about your work, if you are the only one to read your work you are really only communicating with yourself," Bailin said. "The best writers are those who have others look at their writing to get feedback; we don't ever want people to feel that someone does not need to look at their writing." In addition to needing writing tutors, the Student Academic Development program is currently looking for a tutor in Chemistry. Students who are interested in being a tutor should seek the recommendation of a professor from the area they wish to tutor in and then contact Debra Bailin in the Student Academic Development office.

The Art of

By Tabitha Fitzgerald

He is at it again. Dorian McGowain's new exhibit, entitled *Kitsch*, has caused some interesting reactions. The exhibit contains kitsch, which according to the book "Kitsch The World of Bad Taste" means "artistic rubbish". McGowain said that the purpose of the exhibit was to get people thinking about things around them. According to the responses left at the exhibit it is not clear on how well he is achieving that. But the exhibit has definitely rustled some feathers.

The exhibit contains a lot of kitsch that covers a variety of topics. Some of these topics are dishes, politics, religion, the military, patriotism and theatrics. There is a notebook hanging on the wall for observers to leave their responses. The notepad is quite empty. One quote that was left is "What were you thinking." The one piece at the exhibit that seems to be getting the most responses has a response sheet all of its own. It is a picture taken from a newspaper. There are four pictures on it. One is of the Pope, another is of President

Bush, the third is of Michael Jackson, and the last is of gas prices. The quote underneath the page asks what these three men have in common. Some of the responses here have some real thought provoking qualities. One such quote reads, "Thus the price individuals pay for the fame of these three leaders/figures." Another such quote left by an unknown observer reads, "They are all predators." "Art is suppose to get a reaction," said Garret Nelson, the Library Director at LSC, who believes this is what McGowain is accomplishing. Nelson finds the exhibit "thought provoking" and believes it provides a basis for students to compare "real art" to.

The kitsch exhibit is a semester long exhibit. There will be new material added and there is a sign that encourages spectators to bring in their own kitsch. While some may think the exhibit is in bad taste that is the point. Though there are not many responses written on McGowain's notebook now there is definitely enough material to inspire more.



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Fun Page...

Horoscopes

By Madame Divine

Aries: Lay low. There is dangerous weather ahead, make sure you are prepared for anything. The power will be going out soon.

Taurus: Listen to the advice of others; it comes in handy as you may find yourself in a sticky situation. Don't get ahead of yourself; you may chop off the most important part.

Gemini: Your evil side wants to come out. Try to keep it under control. Nobody likes a villain. There is no I in team. Sleep with one eye open.

Cancer: You're an emotional wreck. Stop putting it off, sit down and cry those tears you need to spill. Brighter days are sure to come.

Leo: Your bite is not as big as your bark. Put your foot down and stop letting everyone walk all over you. Your procrastination is going to hurt you in the long run, take care of loose ends.

Virgo: Your innocent characteristics may fool some people, but not the ones who know you well. Your guilty conscience will shine through and you shall hang for your wrong doing.

Libra: Balancing acts are your specialty. You seek the thrill of living on the edge. Remember to be safe because accidents can happen anywhere, anytime, any place.

Scorpio: Get in touch with your wild side. There is nothing as exhilarating as a getting a piercing or tattoo. Be careful in your selection, if done under the wrong influence you may regret it in the morning.

Sagittarius: Take pleasure in life's simple gifts. Take a long ride in the car or a late afternoon nap. Go star gazing with the one you love. Make everlasting memories today.

Capricorn: Young love is blossoming. Take a chance; don't be afraid due to past relationships. Seize the moment and go for it. It is the only way to live.

Aquarius: Splurge. Buy a new pair of shoes or treat yourself to a nice dinner. Let the small stuff slide and focus on yourself. Be your own number one.

Pisces: You've been dying to do, so what's stopping you? Believe in yourself. If you don't, who will? What is the worst that can happen? Have no regrets, live it up.

C O M P U T E R A M R A N A T
C O W D R O T M A I F
C A C U L A T O R K A N C
F K O Y L A L E N P E R E O L
J P S F R S E I D Y P E S A D V I C K I G
T A K I S L I P E H S C I L N A O P O E R H
Q P C E L T G E T U E N C H I
S E O A V S L P E S R J N I C K I A S E R I
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| Computer | Pen |
| Eraser | Pencil |
| Folders | Ruler |
| Gelpen | Stapler |
| Gluestick | |

*Words go horizontal, vertical, diagonally, and backwards diagonally.



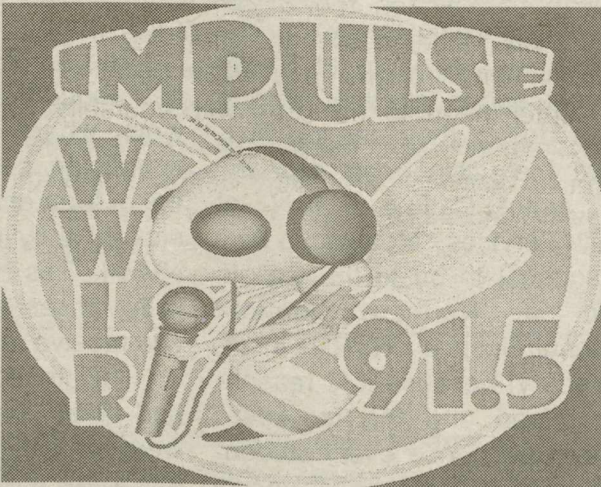
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Deferred LSC Maintenance

By Nicholas R. Plante

Roughly 59 projects appear on LSC's deferred maintenance list. "We don't expect all the projects to get funded; that's not going to happen," said James Gallagher, director of the maintenance department.

Some of the deferred maintenance projects include: installing a sprinkler system in the Dining Hall to comply with building codes, replacing a buried fuel tank to meet environmental standards, and general maintenance projects such as brick repairs on campus buildings, and replacing campus signs. "It's an endless list," Gallagher said.

Gallagher explained the difference between capital projects and general maintenance. General maintenance items included problems like thermostats hanging from the walls in classrooms and broken doors. He said general maintenance could be fixed quickly by submitting work orders.

Capital projects, those costing \$5,000 or more, fall into two categories. The first category is dorm and dining and it contains projects scheduled in the dorms and cafeteria. Dorm and dining doesn't receive any funding from the state, and is funded through tuition, Gallagher said. Currently LSC has 32 dorm and dining projects planned.

The second category, capital projects and academic projects, includes work on the rest of the campus. LSC has 27 academic projects, Gallagher said. They range in cost from \$25,000 to \$500,000.

"Some things we've been asking for for years, but they just don't get enough priority,"

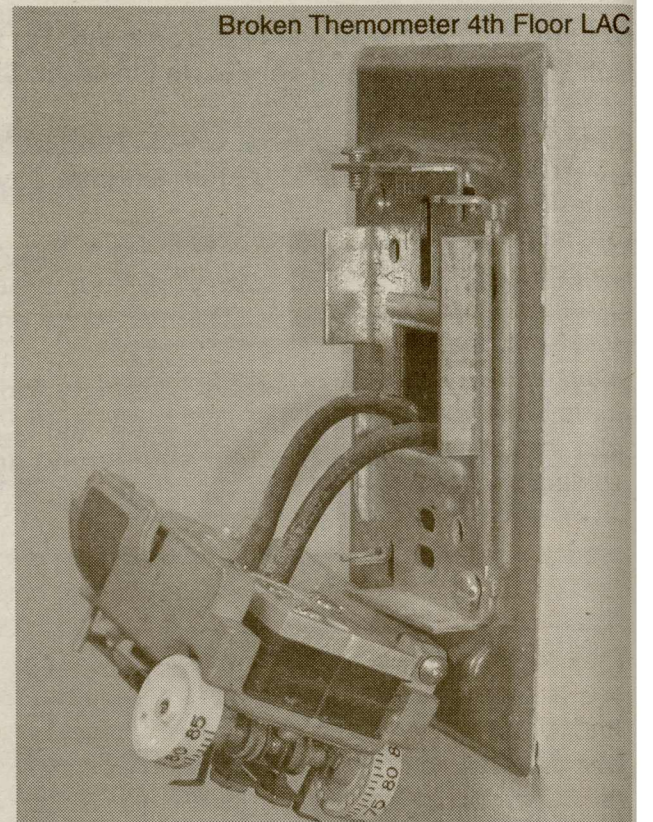
Gallagher said. Gallagher said his duties include identifying and estimating the costs of the projects and making a list. He then takes his list to LSC's Dean of Administrations, Wayne Hamilton, and to LSC's President, Carol Moore, in order to determine each projects priority. The three of them work with the Campus Planning Board (CPB) determining the priority given to each project. "The ultimate decision maker is the President. She has the final say on what we do and how we submit it," Gallagher said. After the priorities are set, the list then goes on to Vermont State Colleges (VSC) main office and waits funding.

One capital project, the Dining Hall's sprinkler system, was a three-year process, Gallagher said. The project is scheduled to be complete around Christmas of this year. "It's [the sprinkler project contract] out on the street right now waiting for a bid. We don't know how much the bid is going to be, but we hope we have enough money," Gallagher said. New fire codes required the Dining Hall to install the sprinkler system, and the fire department allotted three years for LSC to comply, Gallagher said. Gallagher said it's just one of the examples of how long the system can take. "They gave us three years to comply. It took two years to secure the money and it will take one year to get the job done," Gallagher said.

"Next summer you're probably going to see a humongous damn hole in Vail parking lot, because we have to replace a 15,000 gallon fuel tank for activities," Gallagher said. The tank was put in around 1983 and at the time complied with

environmental standards, but today's standards say it has to be replaced, Gallagher said. He also said it would cost about \$69,000 to fix the upper campus road in front of Vail and the tennis courts. The road project is scheduled for some time next year.

"Some of the nice to do projects get bumped by the necessities, and that's what makes it tough," Gallagher said. He said people can bring their concerns and ideas of future projects to CPB, or by contacting him.



Broken Thermometer 4th Floor LAC

What Health Services Can and Can't Do.

By Megan Renaud

Concerns have been floating around campus regarding student's health and where they can go to get medical attention. Some of the concerns include where the students are allowed to go after they have been to Health Services, where they go when they are taken by ambulance, what rights Health Services has to tell them where to go, and where the school insurance is accepted.

To clear up the biggest concern; students can go to any hospital or care facility they want. "If a student sees a nurse at Health Services and is told they need to see a doctor they can go anywhere their little heart desires," said Janet Casey, a R.N. at Health Services. "Most of the time we suggest to go to the walk-in clinic [at Northern Vermont Regional Hospital (NVRH) in St. Johnsbury] because it is reasonably priced and the quickest," Casey said. Since every student is required to have health insurance at LSC, doctor's appointments can be made easier by showing insurance cards right away. At NVRH, once your insur-

ance information is in the computers, appointments run smoothly. One important thing to remember, however, is to always fill out a claim form and have Paula Chamberlain at Health Services fax it to the health insurance carrier. Otherwise the insurance company won't be billed for the appointment. Another benefit about going to NVRH is that there is always a doctor there and if a student's condition is bad enough, they can go right from the walk-in clinic to the emergency room.

The second concern students had about their health treatments were where they would go if something serious happened to them. If an ambulance picks up a student they automatically go to NVRH. This happens because it is the closest to LSC and students can receive faster treatment.

The third concern students had about their health treatment were what right Health Services has to tell them where to go. The only right Health Services has is to tell students to go see a doctor because sometimes they can't help students. They cannot give

See Health pg. 9

Biology's New Professor

By Nicholas R. Plante

An office inside the Science Wing hallway has new letters on its door this year reading "Biology."

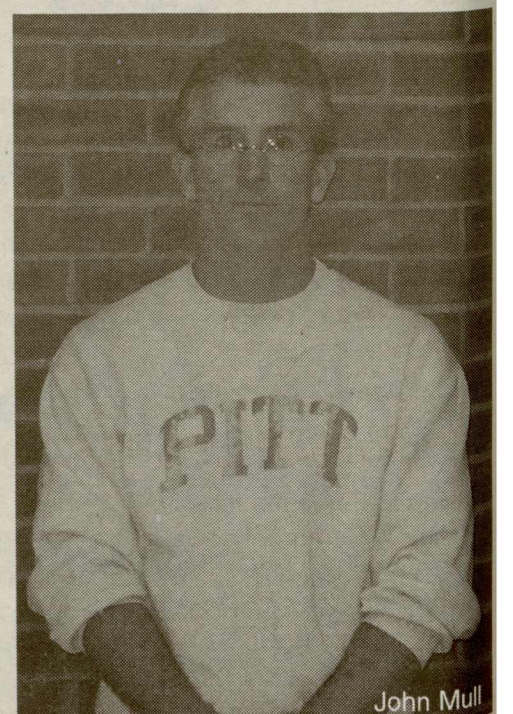
The top letters on the door spell out the name of John Mull, LSC's newest biology professor. Mull said one reason he chose LSC was because he wanted to get back to the northeast and return to living in a rural setting. He grew up in rural Sheffield, Pennsylvania, a place similar to Vermont. Mull's greatest achievements include marrying his wife, Annie, and having his daughter Grace.

Mull offered a piece of advice to students, "keep an open mind and find something you really enjoy because you're going to be doing it for a long time."

Mull has been teaching for about eight years. He was a volunteer teacher for a non profit organization in Ghana. He started teaching in Ghana, West Africa after earning a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Pittsburgh and a doctorate in biology from Utah State University. "It was a chance to see an interesting part of the world and get a first hand view of the problems happening there," Mull said. "It's something I would do again in a second."

Before LSC, he taught at Weber State University in Utah.

"I can be honest, I hope this is the last job I have," Mull said, "I hope to develop a good set of classes that I teach on a routine basis that serve the needs of the students and this program well, and to remain active with research." Mull is currently working on a research project dealing with changes in Pennsylvania's forest understory with the US Forestry Service. Mull likes the outdoors and reading poetry.



John Mull

History of the Twilight Players

By Valerie Pierce

“Arts are more than entertainment, they are a cultural and historical record and expression of a nation's societies and identity,” Richard Portner, television studies/fine and performing arts professor, said.

The theater program at LSC was an offered major from 1977 to 1989, Portner remembered, as he was one of the four faculty members who ran the program.

When it began there were forty-five declared students in the major as well as students from other majors who participated. There were four productions and up to twelve students directed one scene plays each year. Portner said that there were classes taught on theater history, acting, directing and lighting as well as set design.

It was in 1979 that the theater program was taken from LSC by the VT State College Chancellor and moved to Johnson State College. This was to try to eliminate similar majors in the colleges. Portner continued running the theater program on a smaller scale in 1988 by having only two productions a year and student directed plays. A year later Portner began to focus on TVS because there were had been no additional faculty hired in the theater program.

The Twilight players were a student run program at the time and they continued while the academic theater program came to an end. When there were no productions students could not earn any credits, Portner pointed out. Proposals were made to reinstate the theater program but none of them were accepted, until the liberal studies degree became a way for students to once again take theater classes for credit.

Currently, the theater program is under the direction of John Walker. There have been two productions a year; and they are in the process of producing a student written and directed play. The twilight theater players merged with this new academic curriculum in 2004 and have been working together. Walker said that the credits are received through classes that are centered on the fine arts. It is also possible to take the classes without receiving credit because the plays are open to the community members as well.

In the future Walker would like to offer one or two acting classes that he believes would also help teach life skills. He also wanted to have more students write and direct one act plays, possibly as an independent study.

Issues Raised at Monthly Meeting

By Emily Hale

Issues were raised at Lyndon State College's first of the year monthly meeting regarding the food service and security on campus. Tad Stone, Head of Aramark Services on campus, and Charles Lacaille, Director of Public Safety, were present at the meeting to answer questions regarding their departments.

The most talked about issue at the meeting on Tuesday, October 4 was the quality of the food served on campus and other issues regarding that department. Stone said that he would take everyone's ideas into consideration and that he was glad to get all the feedback. In response to questions about people with certain needs, Stone said he would, “definitely make accommodations for anyone.”

Students had a lot to say while sitting in the student center when it came to the quality of food during off-lunch hours as well. Many said that the food looked as if it had been sitting there too long and was not appealing. The idea about making everything to order was raised so that food never sat out. The problem with that, Stone said, was that Aramark is understaffed at LSC.

Doug Stewart, executive chef on campus, and Stone both agreed that once the staffing situation was

taken care of, they would look into offering more of a variety of food. Students suggested offering samples during lunch of new foods to get feedback as to what other meals to serve. Some also suggested handing out surveys to get feedback about the food service at school.

Shifting from food service on campus to security, faculty and students focused on problems many students felt were key on campus. Topics such as what to do in the case of someone being hurt, noise complaints, parking, and skateboarding were discussed.

A past incident regarding someone being beat up on campus was the first issue raised. Students questioned Lacaille as to what should be done in this case. Instead of the student trying to do something about the situation, Lacaille said to call public safety to take care of it.

Lacaille repeatedly expressed the importance of calling security for virtually any dispute or problem that students have on campus. If there is a problem between students, someone is being hurt, gates are locked, or if anyone has a complaint about noise, “contact Public Safety” Lacaille said.

Board of Trustees Meeting comes to Lyndon

By Mary Wheeler

The Vermont State College's monthly Board of Trustees meeting was held at Lyndon State College on Thursday (October 27) where representatives from the entire VSC system including Chancellor Robert Clark and Governor James Douglas were in attendance.

The meeting was held directly following the dedication of the Rita L. Bole Complex. During the meeting, all the resolutions proposed by each of the College's were discussed and passed by the Board. Clark, who had spent an entire day at each of the State College's (Castleton, Johnson, CCV, Lyndon, and Vermont Technical College), was pleased with the feedback he was receiving from the students' and faculty.

Clark said many students are currently taking courses at more than one of the Vermont State College's. He also emphasized that a significant amount of money is being spent on maintaining the facilities and was highlighted in the Capital

Budget Proposal and State Appropriation Request, which was approved by the Board.

One of the resolutions proposed by LSC was to name the tennis courts after retired faculty member Dudley S. Bell for his dedication and commitment to the LSC community. Bell, who began his career in 1959 as an instructor of physical education, has continued to volunteer with teams, and has remained in contact with many of the LSC alumni. The resolution was approved and Bell was in attendance to accept an award.

“When I started working here, there were only 210 students and 17 faculty members,” Bell said. “This is an award I take great pride in.”

Another topic discussed was the modification to the fleet license program, changing the current age from 21 to 19-20 year olds. The current policy prohibits person under 21 years old from driving vehicles on any type of sporting events, field

trips or work-study jobs. Those eligible for a license must also have a clean driving record. The resolution was discussed and passed with several set stipulations that there can only be 100, 19-20 year old drivers in the entire VSC system. Also, those 19-20 year olds can only drive a mini van or smaller, they must take a defensive driving course, and not exceed 400 miles of travel on a trip.

The meeting concluded with President's Reports where Carol Moore, President of LSC, emphasized the current happenings at LSC. Moore mentioned the newly dedicated Rita L. Bole Center as being an important addition to the campus, convocation, and town meetings. The meeting was then opened for comments from the public. The next meeting will be held on Friday, (December 9) at Vermont Technical College in Randolph Center, Vermont.

Health Continued From Pg. 8

students any limitations about where to be seen. They can only offer suggestions. Commonly they will advise students to go to the walk-in clinic at NVRH only because it's the most convenient both costly and timely for the student. Health Services will help students find a doctor that is suitable for them.

The final concern students had about their health treatments were where the college insurance is accepted. Consolidated Health Plans, the

health insurance on campus, is accepted anywhere a student may go. This includes NVRH, Cornerstone, Dartmouth, Newport Hospital, Copley Hospital, etc. Consolidated Health Plans will only cover \$50 of each doctor's visit so it is a limited coverage. However, it is accepted anywhere students may go.

If you have any concerns about student health or Health Services you can contact them at 626-6400.

Campus News...

LSC Authors read from their works

Amanda Gilman

Two Lyndon State College professors and authors spent Tuesday afternoon reading passages from their books. Alan Boye, Professor of English and author of "Just Walking the Hills of Vermont" and "Holding Stone Hands," and Jack Pulaski, a Part Time Faculty Member of the English Department and author of several novels including "Courting Laura Providencia," "The St. Veronica Gig Stories," and "Chekhov Was a Doctor," read to faculty, staff, and students in the Burke Mountain room Tuesday (October 25).

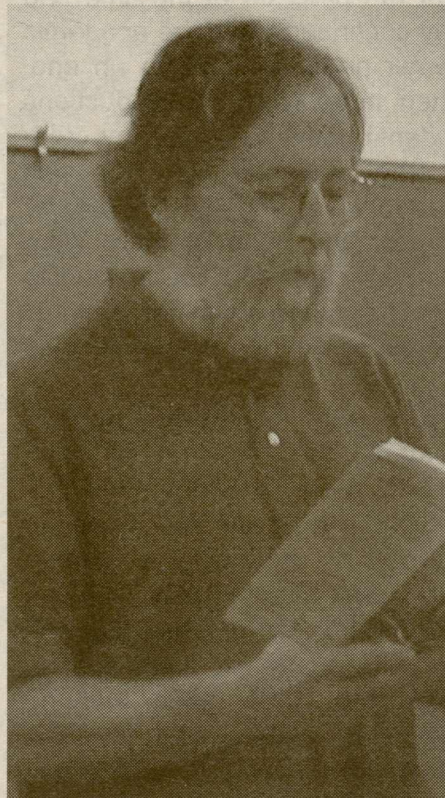
Pulaski read a short story titled "The Merry Go Round" that provided an intriguing glimpse into his childhood. His story had the audience both grinning and laughing throughout.

Alan Boye chose two sections to read, one from each of his books,

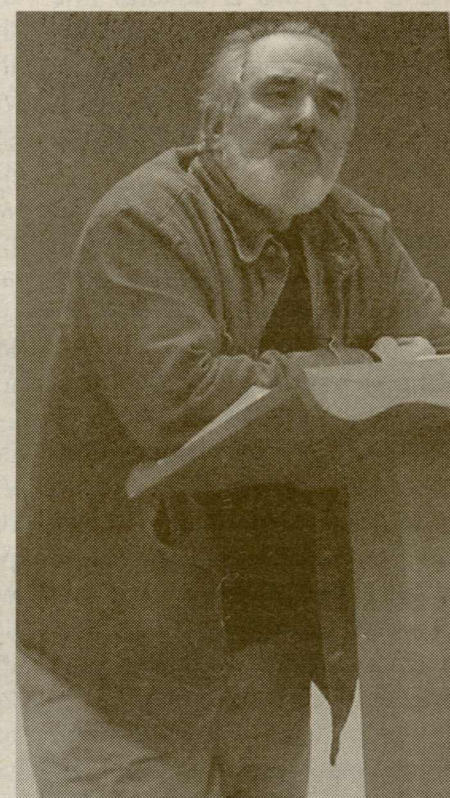
The first was from his book "Holding Stone Hands" a novel he wrote about his 1,000 mile journey from The Great Plains to Montana, retracing one of the last battles between the Cheyenne and the U.S. Army. Although the audience was small, they responded enthusiastically to his detailed accounts.

Boye concluded his reading with a passage from "Just Walking the Hills of Vermont." "This passage involves Lyndon State College because I left right after a graduation ceremony a few years ago to take this particular walk," Boye said. He read about his stay on Burton Island on a cold wet evening in May.

Alan Boye can also be heard reading from his book "Just Walking the Hills of Vermont" on the Vermont Public Radio every other Saturday morning at 8:30 AM.



Alan Boye



Jack Pulaski

Rugby Teams Tackle End of Season

By Jake Mardin

The men's and women's rugby team have completed their seasons, and both showed significant improvements over last year.

Although the men finished their season with a 29-0 loss against the New Haven U23 team in their qualifying match, they ended the season tied for first in the conference and fifth in the division with a 4-1 record.

The men's team saw their rookies step up and contribute to the winning effort. The newcomers were able to learn from the more experienced players. "It was a total team effort," rugby President, Josh Norris, said. Team captain T.J. Mahew also played well throughout the season.

The women's team also ended their season with a 4-1 record and finished first in the conference and second in the division. Coached by Ian Moses and Brian Mueller, the team has improved significantly, winning their first ever game this season. Led by captains Stevie Allen and Natalie Lavoie, the team went from the bottom of their conference to first place. This year also marked the first time in 25 years both teams have swept a weekend.

Besides playing on the field, both teams have been a part of cleaning campus. Chris Brown and Jeremy Lacey organized a cleanup day for the men's side and cleaned up the courtyard. "We

wanted to better the image of rugby," Norris said. The women's team cleaned up the campus on parent's weekend. Norris also hopes to have the teams clean at least once a month.

Although the regular season is over, there is still more rugby to be played. In March, the teams will host the Snowbowl tournament, where the field will be shoveled and plowed so a tournament can be played. The teams also hope to hold fundraisers. Norris said he was pleased with how the season went and added, "Thanks to all the fans that came out and showed support."

LSC Prepares for Move to NCAA

By Jake Mardin

This year marks the final year LSC will be a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). Next year, the school will become a provisional member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) at the Division III level.

LSC has been a member of the NAIA for the past 50 years. In that time, the school has sent four tennis teams, two basketball teams, and eight cross country teams to the national championships. "We have had a great relationship with the NAIA," said Director of Athletics, Christopher Ummer.

The main reason for the move to the NCAA is the demise of the NAIA. The NAIA membership has been slowly dropping for several years with most schools going to the

NCAA. The NCAA is also a more attractive name and attracts more student-athletes and is more marketable than the NAIA.

LSC will not become a full-time member of the NCAA until 2010. Instead, LSC will be a provisional member for the next four years. LSC will not be a member of a conference until 2010, when it is a full-time member. Until then, the school will also be a member of the U.S. Collegiate Athletics Association, or USCAA, in order to compete in postseason play.

Once a full time member of the NCAA, LSC will most likely be playing in the North Atlantic Conference (NAC) or the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC). These conferences provide the best matches for LSC in terms of compe-

tion and size. Notable schools in the NAC include Johnson State College and Castleton State College, while some schools in the GNAC are Norwich University and Rivier College. Once LSC is in a conference, it will benefit from better scheduling and tougher opponents. "We will have more competitive opponents," Ummer said.

There have already been several steps taken to prepare for the move. LSC has scheduled as many games against NAC and GNAC teams as possible. According to Ummer, the teams will no longer have to make long trips to northern Maine to play teams like Fort Kent. There is also a new student-athlete handbook being written.

There are also new varsity sports that will begin play in the next

two years. Next fall, there will be a women's volleyball team. A men's lacrosse team will begin play in the 2007-2008 season. These sports are being added because the NCAA will require at least 12 varsity sports per school. There is also talk about adding Alpine and Nordic skiing teams to the list of varsity sports. "These sports were the best choices in terms of costs and budgeting," Ummer said.

The NCAA Division III requirements are less strict than they were in the NAIA. More student-athletes will now have the opportunity to play sports. However, contrary to popular belief, Division III schools are not allowed to award scholarships, as it is a violation of NCAA rules.

XC Team Sends Three Men to National Championship

By Jake Mardin

After competing in the Region IX/X Championships in Portsmouth, OH, the LSC cross-country team has qualified three runners for the NAIA National Championships on Nov. 19 in Louisville, KY.

Jeremiah Bias, Thorin Markison, and Ryan Robitaille, all qualified for the nationals after running in 77 degree heat, which made a hard transition for athletes used to running in temperatures in the 40s. "There were some runners suffering from heat exhaustion and stroke," Director of Athletics and cross-country coach, Christopher Ummer said. The men's side finished 6th out of 16 teams, a good performance considering four out of five teams that finished ahead of them were nationally ranked, including Cedarville College and St. Vincent College.

The women, while not able to qualify any runners for the nationals, still ran a competitive race.

The women's side has been plagued by injuries, including captain Hayley Cronin, who was running after tearing her ACL only six months ago. Jess Maple led the team with a time of 20 minutes, 24 seconds, good for a 32nd place finish. Lyndsay Calkins was right behind her in 37th place, completing the run in 20:43.

Both the men and women had good performances, including both sides winning the Sunrise Conference Championship meet. The women ran well despite a year riddled with injuries. They were able to beat St. Michael's head to head during the season. Ummer was impressed with the running of Elizabeth Markison. "She had an exceptional year," Ummer said. "I was impressed with her off-season training." The women's side will lose several seniors, including Cronin. "The seniors will be missed," Ummer said.

Bright spots for the men include finishing only

two points behind a strong University of Vermont team at the St. Michael's meet. Two surprises on the team were freshman Jonathan Harty, who was able to run very strong without training, and Robert Penney, who Ummer calls "a heck of a runner." The team is expecting a good showing from Bias, Markison, and Robitaille at the nationals. Ummer thinks they have a good shot at being named All-Americans. "I have to thank Bias, Markison, and Robitaille for running their best right now," Ummer said.

Ummer also expects both sides to fare well next year. The men should be able to perform well next year. "We have a lot of young, good talent," Ummer said. He also hopes to bring in a solid group of young runners in the women's side.

LSC Men Win Sunrise Conference Championship

By Jake Mardin

Despite a rough start, the men's soccer team won their first Sunrise Conference Championship on Saturday after beating the University of Maine at Fort Kent 2-1.

Rodney Mercier and captain Rob Carey scored the Hornet's two goals while their defense was able to limit Fort Kent to only one goal. The Hornets were able to overcome the slick field conditions leftover from a snowstorm that dumped five inches of snow on the field.

It certainly wasn't a walk in the park for the team to reach the championship game. The Hornets began the season in early September losing to Norwich University and the University of Maine at Farmington, both by the score of 5-1. Coach Peter Kellaway said at the beginning of the season, the team goal was to make it to a regional game. "After watching the first couple of games, I didn't think it was possible," Kellaway said. Part of this was due to the fact that the team had 14 players who had no experience playing soccer at the collegiate level. "It took a while to understand," Kellaway said. The team started off the season 1-3.

The team began to take a turn for the better on Sept. 17, with a 2-1 victory over University of Maine at Presque Isle, followed by a 3-2 overtime win over University of Maine at Fort Kent the following day. Kellaway expected to come away with one weekend that way, but instead took both games. "It was like a light switch clicked on," Kellaway said, talking about how the team began playing together. "The players began to believe in the system," Kellaway said. That weekend also marked the return of Tony McAloon, who suffered a concussion earlier in the season. "He had a great weekend," Kellaway said about McAloon, who scored a goal against Fort Kent. Kellaway said that the Fort Kent game was when the team started to come together. The Hornets blanked Vermont Technical College 6-0 the following game to bring their winning streak to three games.

After playing Fort Kent, the Hornets went 1-3, including losing their second game against Fort Kent. But following that game, the team went on a four game winning streak, including two shutouts against Green Mountain College and Daniel Webster College. Kellaway believes that streak carried over from the team's three game winning streak earlier in the season. "We played perfect," Kellaway said. The defense and passing game began to pick up as well, Kellaway said.

After finishing the regular season 9-7, the Hornets won a dramatic game against University of Maine at Machias in the Sunrise Conference Playoff game on Oct. 30. The Hornets had split their two games against Machias during the regular season. Kellaway called the 3-2 double overtime victory "grueling." "I don't want to go through that again," Kellaway said. After playing two overtimes, the Hornets won the game on penalty kicks. Freshman goalie Jeff Giroux was able to block two penalty kick shots and had ten saves for the game. The Hornets won by playing their style of game, which emphasizes short, controlling passes and moving the ball all over the field. "We were able to control the tempo of the game," Kellaway said.

The Hornet's then returned to Fort Kent and won the Conference championship. To get to this point, the team has had several players elevate their game. "Different players took turns rising up," Kellaway said. Among the different standouts are goalie Jeff Giroux, who Kellaway has seen play since high school, Matthew Scagnelli and Christopher Cowan, two freshmen who are the backbone of the Hornet's defense. "Those two are the future of our program," Kellaway said.

The team concluded their season with a 4-2 loss in the Region IX tournament game against St. Vincent College in Latrobe, PA. Darren Roberge was the student responsible for the two Hornet goals.

Women Capture Fourth Straight Conference Title

By Jake Mardin

The Hornets have once again won the Sunrise Conference Championship after shutting out number two seed University of Maine at Fort Kent 2-0. Although the Hornets were defeated 7-0 by Ohio Dominican University on Nov. 1 in the Region IX Tournament game, they played dominating soccer throughout the season.

After playing for a month, coach Miles Etter knew he had a team that could contend for the championship. The Hornets started the season on Sept. 3 with a 6-1 win over Anna Maria College. After that, the team won nine games and tied twice before losing 4-0 to Castleton State College. Etter credits a defensive formation change less than a month into the season in helping the team become so dominant defensively, changing to a three back, two deep halfback formation. Over the course of 19 games, the team only allowed 17 goals. Etter names seniors Jess Perron and Christine Riendeau, among others, with stepping up their game and playing well.

After the loss to Castleton, the Hornets went 3-1 to finish the regular season 13-2-2. The team then defeated the College of St. Joseph's 8-0. Freshman Kelly Warren and junior Autumn Fahey led the way offensively, scoring three goals each.

The team then defeated Fort Kent 2-0 to win the Sunrise Conference Championship game. Goals were scored by freshman Kari Johnson and junior Meg Skidmore. "We dominated the game," Etter said. "I thought the girl's effort was high all day." Etter said the defensive made the necessary big plays while on offense the team was very selective with scoring opportunities.

The Hornet's traveled to Columbus, OH to play in the Region IX Tournament game against Ohio Dominican University, which they lost 7-0. "We didn't have one of our better games," Etter said. Although they lost, Etter said the team took a few positives from the game. "The team saw what they had to do to improve next year," Etter said.

This year's team played very dominant soccer. Along with the defensive play, the offense was remarkable, scoring 100 goals and 66 assists for 266 points. Every player on the team scored points and 14 out of 15 scored goals. Kelly Warren led the team in scoring with 68 points, scoring 27 goals and 14 assists. "Kelly is dedicated to improving," Etter said. "Her level of play improved from start to finish." Next in line in points scored was captain Meg Skidmore with 59 points, and captain Becky Armstrong, with 44 points. Skidmore and Armstrong, along with the team's other captain, Christine Riendeau, were able to keep the team in balance, said Etter. "We had very good team chemistry and few issues," he said.

Next season, the team will not play in the Sunrise Conference, as LSC is leaving the NAIA program after this year. The team will play in the U.S. Collegiate Athletics Association, or USCAA. Etter said the team would play tougher opponents next year. "Long term, we'll improve by playing better competition," Etter said. This year however, was a special one for Etter. "I would like to thank the girls. It was one of the most enjoyable seasons I've had here," Etter said. "The attitude of the girls and the support they gave each other was enjoyable."

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THE CRITIC

Serving the student voice at Lyndon State College

Lyndonville, VT

December 02 2005 Volume 52, Number 5

FREE!

Freshmen Take on Student Government

By Nicole Miner

A group of freshman came to the House of Representatives meeting on Wednesday 6th (November) in hopes of forming a club, First Year Friends, that would be run by freshman and would serve the needs of freshman. The idea was formed in Director of First Year Experience, Donna Keely's, INT 1020 class. The students were instructed to brainstorm ideas for a group and were put into different committees. Jennifer Sullivan, freshman, was in the recruiting committee. This committee was in charge of coming up with ways to get more freshmen involved. "I saw the view of house and I thought maybe we shouldn't be up there," Sullivan said.

As the Director of First Year Experience, one of Keely's focus areas is retention. Retention rates are down and it is part of her job to bring them back up to national standards. Keely believes that First Year Friends will help with retention and getting freshman more involved on campus.

"If we went to the House meeting we were given a free horizon event or module. If we were all done with our horizon events and modules then we got an extra 10 points in the class. Those who presented do not have to write the five page final paper," Chelsea Otis, freshman, said.

7 of Keely's students stood up in front of House and stated their case. They wanted to make a group where they could have a voice and feel that they are an active voice at LSC. They described their purpose as a kind of advisory board to the administration; a way for them to comfortably let the administration know what they could do for the freshman to improve retention and the success of freshmen. Dave Paquin, freshman, was not in attendance at the house meeting, but he said, "You guys [house reps] have a one sided view of this school. You need guys like me." The Student Senate has fourteen members, seven of which are freshmen.

Peernet Guide Speaks Out

By Kerri Sgarlata

As an orientation leader and a peer net guide I feel a bit discarded by the freshman class. I understand their want to reach out and have their needs met but so many of them take SOAR, Orientation, peer net, OLs, RAs and Convocation as a joke so often that they do not understand the availability and accessibility that is being made to them. I agree that becoming

involved on this campus is one of the best ways to succeed at LSC however pointing fingers and saying that Freshman DO NOT have a voice on this campus is just being blind to the resources already set on their plate. As an involved upperclassmen on this campus I invite you all to join a club, come to our meetings and if we don't have something that interests you ...then

create it. But a club for freshman, solely, to voice their opinions about the issues they have ignores the issues of that of upperclassmen and segregates one class from another...so to all of the freshman let me remind you to join our FAMILY here at LSC make use of those resources already investing their time into you.

WWLR Continues to Rock the Waves

By Mary Wheeler

Lyndon State College's WWLR radio station is renewing their operation license this year as a requirement by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The FCC creates all the rules and regulations necessary for running a radio station and gives WWLR their license.

WWLR (operated by the students but owned by the Board of Trustees) has been affiliated with LSC for over 20 years. The FCC requires that every seven years the station undergo a license renewal process.

According to Kerri Nelson, General Manager of the station, the process is a very long and tedious one, requiring a significant amount of paperwork and time. What makes the process complicated is that when the license was last renewed in 1998, those involved have since graduated and are unavailable to assist with the current renewal. Future General Managers will be given an in-depth outline of how to do a license so that in 2012 those involved will have a better idea of how to carry out the process.

The first step to renewing the license is the pre-filing stage where it is announced over the

airwaves that the station is up for renewal. The community then has the opportunity to review anything they want to know about the station including programming and violations that the station might have had. The application process then begins, it is required by the FCC to have all paperwork filled out by December 1st. After the application is submitted, the station does a post filing stage, stating on air that the station has finished the renewal of their license.

"Since the process is so intense, we are working with an attorney to make sure that we get everything in that needs to be in on time and done correctly," Nelson said.

"Without Mark Hilton, our advisor, my amazing crew of Directors, a n d Jonathan Davis for getting me started and giving me some direction, I don't know how we would have been able to pull this off."

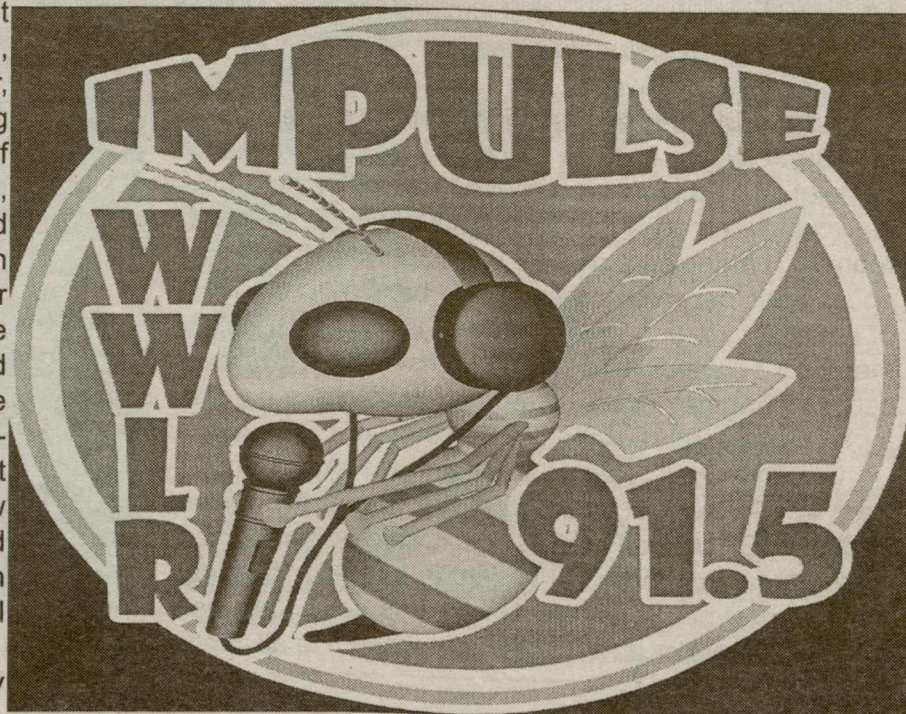
Jeremy

Lacey, Program Director for WWLR, said the station could face serious consequences if this paperwork is not filled out on time. The station is given a grace period, where they have a certain number of days to get the required paperwork in. If the station fails to do so, their license is suspended. Operating without a license is illegal and participants can be fined up to \$2,000 per day and face possible jail time.

This new license will not affect the DJs currently at the station. They will still need to follow the guidelines implemented by the FCC including: no swearing on air, taking a certain number of air breaks, and public service announcements.

"Since the license is just a renewal, the FCC hasn't made too many changes in the past seven years. However a new procedure of public files is being implemented. One file will be stored in the actual station and another will be given to the administration, so any listener can gain access to the traffic logs, public correspondence and other information," Lacey said.

The station will also be updating their emergency alert system (EAS) and will be holding weekly tests. Starting in January the studio will also be using live remote equipment, so DJs can broadcast from local events or at stores that sponsor WWLR.



Hard News...

Life Beyond the Classroom

By Amanda Wozniak

"Life Beyond the Classroom" or INT-4720-L01A or B is a class that is targeted towards helping seniors make an easier transitions into life after college. It is a one credit mini-course for seniors. Linda Wacholder, Director of Career Services, instructs the class. The class is specially designed to help each student identify her or his personal goals. It helps each student to accomplish these goals in a supportive environment. It's a way to "help students help themselves," said Wacholder.

Many areas of life after college will be covered within the half semester class. Students will get a chance to make résumés and cover letters, do a self-analysis in order to find their

strengths and weaknesses, as well as learn about health insurance, loans, debt, budgeting, job searching, and how to conduct themselves in a workplace.

Another aspect of the class to look forward to is "Dinner with the Boss." This is a dinner for the students in the class as well as other seniors. At the dinner Alumni of the same major will host tables and talk about the industry and networking within that major. It is a chance for students to learn the dos and don'ts of the workplace, being a good first year employee and to improve conversation skills as well as learning where to place the napkin, Wacholder said. "Some students find the idea of it daunting at first," Wacholder said, "but by the end of the night peo-

ple really seem to have enjoyed it." She also said that although it is not built as a "job-getting opportunity," students have gotten leads in the past.

The idea to begin this class came from the INT-1020 "Introduction to an Academic Community class," it seemed only natural to provide a class to help the students exit the college. The times for the class are still to be determined. This is done in order to allow as many students up to 25 to take the class as possible. Wacholder said that after an elaborate group e-mailing she finds a mutually convenient time. This class has been offered for the past four years; however, this is the first year that it will be offered as an A and B semester class.

Community Cash

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Associate Dean of Student Affairs, Leo Sevigny, has instituted a community cash program at LSC. Student Life staff, residential assistants, orientation leader, PeerNet guides and members of the Student Government Association have all been given community cash coins to disperse amongst the LSC community, said Sevigny.

The purpose of the community cash program is to go along with the LSC Promise. The coins are "To catch people living the promise," said Sevigny. Those charged with handing out the small aluminum coins give them to students who they see being Good Samaritans. Those attending CAB events may also get handed community Cash. Sevigny gives community cash to those he sees wearing the LSC Promise bracelets.

On December 9th a casino night and raffle will be held at LSC. Tickets for the raffle can be purchased with community cash. The coins can also be used for gambling purposes from the hours of eight to eleven in the evening with the raffle taking place from 11 to 12 at night, Sevigny said. Out of the 10,000 community cash coins printed, about 70% have been distributed. The idea is that most of the coins will come back from circulation and be reused, Sevigny said.

Sevigny got the idea for community cash at LSC while he worked on the residential life staff at Sonoma State University in California. SSU used paper community cash to great effect, Sevigny said. "It's a tool to get people to feel like they belong to something," Sevigny said. In regards to student retention rates "It won't hurt," Sevigny said.

More information on community cash and the LSC Promise can be found at www.lyndonstate.edu/promise.

Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive

By Emily Hale

The annual Thanksgiving food drive was held during the last week of school before Thanksgiving break. Boxes were set up around campus for faculty and students to donate food items for the drive. Monetary donations were also accepted. Items asked to be donated included dessert mixes, canned vegetables and fruits, jello and pudding mixes, cookies, fresh vegetables, stuffing and gravy.

Darcie Miles, Executive Assistant to the President, and Annette Davis, assistant professor/coordinator of portfolio

connection, picked up the boxes and counted the food items donated by students in the afternoon of Friday 18 (November). They are both members of the Fun/Spirit Committee, a group of faculty members chaired by Carol Moore, President of LSC. The food drive is the 3rd one sponsored by the Fun/Spirit committee on campus.

Miles was hopeful that the school would donate more food than last year. Miles said 25 bags of groceries were donated by LSC and \$20.00 was

donated in monetary donations. "I hope that we can collect more this year," Miles said. The turnout this year was most certainly more than last year and every other year the school has participated in the food drive. In total, 45 bags of groceries and \$10.00 in monetary donations were collected. "This soars over last year's donations of 25 bags!" Miles wrote in an email regarding the food drive. "Wow, what an incredible increase. Thank you."

Donations from LSC were sent to the Ecumenical

council in Lyndonville. The Ecumenical council has sponsored the food drive for a number of years. They accept donations from people all around Lyndonville, setting up boxes at local businesses. The council takes the donations from local areas and makes baskets for needy families who cannot afford to make Thanksgiving dinner. They put together over 100 baskets every year. Almost half of the needed donations to make the food baskets were sent in by LSC.

More Renovations Taking Place at LSC

By Sara Morehouse

The Registrar's Office, Business Office, and Financial Aid Office are being incorporated together through remodeling. Remodeling these three offices will provide an area that can provide answers and help for many of a student's needs.

The wall between the Business Office and Registrar's Office is being knocked out and is becoming one larger room. All three offices will be moved in upon completion. Employees in these three offices will have new cubicles so they can work separately, but be in one room so that they are able to work together. If a person goes to this new office, they should be able to take care of everything in one sitting. If there is a larger problem, there will be specialists that students can go to to take care of what they need. "The hope is to make it easier for students," Debra Hale, the Registrar of LSC, said.

Currently, Hale said, if a student has an issue they want to take care of, they go to the Registrar's Office, Business Office, or Financial Aid Office. Many times, these students end up being sent in between the three offices to get help with their issue. It is not a long walk for the students or anyone else, but when it is all in one

place, it will be easier and less stressful on students and employees alike.

The remodeling is going to start over Christmas vacation, after the students have left the campus.



Photo by: Tabitha Fitzgerald



Photo by: Nicole Miner

Corrections

In the November 11th issue, The Critic failed to identify Joseph Suillaciotti for his letter to the Editor.



The Lyndon State Critic

The Students' Newspaper of Lyndon State College, Lyndonville, Vermont

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Special Edition –the Unknown Lyndon State

On the small hill directly between the Gray House and the baseball fields sits a small stone. It's easy to miss it, or mistake it for nothing more than a random boulder, but don't be fooled. That stone is one of Lyndon State's most unusual sites. The marker commemorates Kalman Sandor Toth, a former math professor who died in the early 1960s. The college honored his request that his ashes be buried on campus, and here is where he rests.

If you think you know Lyndon State College, you're in for a surprise. This special edition of the

Critic celebrates the little known LSC, the weird LSC, the unbelievable LSC. Forget about having to drive to Burke, or worse yet, Jay Peak; find out how students in the not-so-distant past could simply walk across the parking lot to catch a tow line for some short, but thrilling runs.

It might seem as if your professor is faking it on those days when she is fumbling around with lecture notes, and mumbling to herself, but read the fascinating story of a man named Denys DuPont who, for three years, fooled many more people than just stu-

dents.

Explore the little know nooks and crannies, dark shadowy hallways and dusty corners of the place you thought you knew well. Inside you'll find out about the rumored "alligator pit," about the strange bust of Willa Cather and about President William Howard Taft who visited here to gossip and drink scotch with his pal T. N. Vail. And speaking of Vail, what would a special issue about the little-known LSC be without the most famous weird story of them all: the story of Emma Vail, whose ghostly spirit still haunts the hallways of campus.

Lyndon State Community Duped by Denys DuPont

By Amanda Gigliotti

He had thought he fooled everyone. When Denys J. DuPont was hired in the fall of 1962 to teach in the Psychology and Education departments at Lyndon State College, he had told college officials that he had received a B.S. from New England College in 1957, a M.A. from the University of New Hampshire in 1959 and a Ph.D from Harvard University in 1962. He even gave the college his Harvard transcripts to prove it.

But in 1965, according to former business manager Robert Michaud, a reaccreditation

group came to review the college and see what it had to offer. At this time, DuPont, who was interested in the occult, had been called away to Chicago to solve a case that dealt with necrophilia, which he claimed to be an expert on. In preparation for the reaccreditation group, Academic Dean Kenneth Stringer reviewed faculty records and discovered something peculiar about DuPont's file. Dean Stringer then called Harvard and they said that they had never heard of DuPont. According to Robert Dixon, Associate Professor of Political Science, DuPont had made

a copy of a woman's transcript from Harvard and then put his name over hers.

According to Dorian McGowan, Professor of Fine and Performing Arts, DuPont claimed to be a hypnotist. DuPont also claimed to be an authority on the occult. McGowan recalled a story involving DuPont and the ghost of the Hoffman house on Red Village Road in Lyndonville. DuPont had asked McGowan, who is an artist, and another man, a scientist, to spend the night with him at the Hoffman house. DuPont had heard that the ghost was the spirit of a Mr.

Seeped in controversy, the Etruscan Woman Remains Unperturbed

By Tabitha Fitzgerald

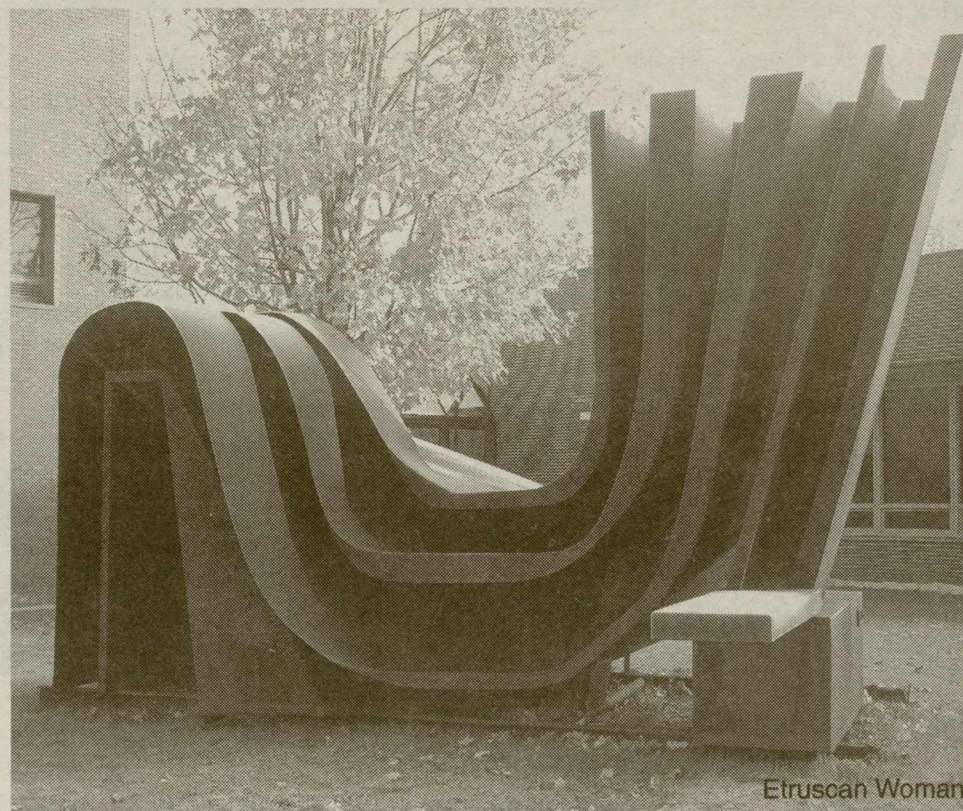
The Etruscan Woman, located in the courtyard outside of the Alexander Twilight Theater (ATT), has been the center of a lot of controversy and disagreement. She has been built, rebuilt, moved, fought about, ignored and loved. With such a full story the Etruscan Woman has stamped her mark in LSC history.

The greatest controversy over the Etruscan Woman came in the very beginning when deciding where to place her. It is rumored that she should have been put in many places all over campus, but there is a direct path that her placement took. In a letter that the sculptor, Hank Jenson, wrote he describes the piece as being a silhouette against the sky. Jenson is now dead, but according to a 1968 press release, he originally called his piece "A Symphony in Black and White." Why the piece is now officially known Etruscan Woman is unclear. Dorian McGowan, an art professor at LSC, said he believed she was supposed to be placed on the hill by the president's house.

According to Robert Michaud, the former business manager of LSC, the final sculpture was originally placed behind the dining hall where the model had been built. At this point the construction of the new buildings was in progress and the school didn't know where to put her. McGowan suggested putting her on a platform in the pool behind what is now the library.

Michaud said he talked to one of

the architects, John Atwood, who suggested moving the sculpture to the lawn in front of the new Vail building that was still under construction. Michaud agreed and with the help of the construction crew the statue was moved. In the 1968 press release it is mentioned that



Etruscan Woman

three buildings would frame the sculpture. Michaud said that at the same time he was approving the placement of the statue, Jenson was talking to a different architect, Thomas Cullins. Cullins and Jenson had been talking about where the statue should be placed in relation to the buildings. They had decided the ATT courtyard would be best

and Cullins drew a sketch of the buildings with statue in the courtyard. Michaud said that Jenson was thoroughly unimpressed with the statue being on the Vail lawn. "We had a little discussion about that," Michaud said. Michaud said Jenson was offended by the placement of

the statue and wanted it moved while Michaud thought the statue would be overpowering in relation to the buildings. In the end the sculpture was moved and Michaud agreed it worked nicely there and he wrote an apology letter to Jenson. In the letter Michaud said that the sculpture looked good and it wasn't overshadowing. "Thanks for being

persistent," Michaud wrote. This is the spot where the statue now rests.

McGowan has a different rendition of the story. He said that Jenson was very disappointed with the placement of the piece. He said that by the end of the project Jenson wanted nothing to do with the college.

Chet Cole, the welder of the piece, said that Jenson had designed the piece to be placed in the light and to be set on a platform that would raise the piece about a foot off of the ground. These things are not being accomplished in the place where the piece is now. Cole also said that he and Jenson built the piece in the light to make sure everything looked the way Jenson envisioned it. "He wanted the ribs to look like the folds of the woman's gown and the spaces in-between to show depth and shadow. That is not accomplished where it is now." Though this is what Jenson had envisioned for the piece, Cole said that there was no set place for it. With all of the construction going on they knew the statue could be placed and relocated to any place.

The piece was originally designed for a contest. It was not made for LSC specifically or any other place. Cole said, Jenson was already well known in the art world and had done work in Italy. "To have someone dick around with him frustrated him," Cole said. Even now that the Etruscan Woman has found her place there are still disagreements about... See Etruscan pg 4

Etruscan Woman Continued from pg 3

her location.

The Etruscan Woman came to LSC through a contest held by the Vermont Council of the Arts. Michaud said the Council held a contest for a piece of sculpture for one of the Vermont State Colleges. Jenson won the contest and LSC was awarded the sculpture. Jenson became the Artist in Residence on campus. "Suddenly we were told we were to receive this piece of art. Then we were told Jenson would be living here," Michaud said. Jenson lived in the VIP suite in the Wheelock Residence Hall. Jenson received \$10,000 commissioned for the piece. The Vermont Council of the Arts and the Vermont State Colleges equally contributed the money. Jenson paid for his supplies for the model, the statue and Cole's

services out of this sum. "That is nothing for a piece of art," McGowan said. Michaud said Jenson, received free room and board so it wasn't a bad price in proportion for 1968. The model was built from plywood on campus. Students could and did help build it and ask questions. "He was there morning and afternoon," Michaud said. The model was then sent to Cole for welding and completion of the final piece. Cole said it took two summers to finish the final piece. Jenson was paid in four installments; one at the start of the process, the second when the model was done, the third when the piece was half-complete and the last at completion. Since the final placement the piece has been loved and ignored. People like McGowan

love it. He said he has even created fashions around it. Others seem to feel differently as is shown by the graffiti written between the steel ribs.

Another controversial topic surrounding the Etruscan Woman is the ashes that were exhumed. Professor Kalman Toth died in a car accident and his ashes were buried in the ATT courtyard. McGowan said the ashes were dug up when the statue was relocated to the courtyard. He also said that Graham Newell, a current professor at Saint Johnsbury Academy, had run outside in an attempt to put a stop to the exhumation of the ashes. Michaud said that Toth's family was a little upset. Now that he looks back on it he said that maybe he shouldn't have allowed it but at the

time he had three choices. These choices were to exhume the ashes, put the statue on top of the ashes or fight Jenson to have the statue left on the Vail lawn. In the end the ashes were reburied behind the baseball field, across from the rescue building on the top of a hill. His marker is still there but Michaud wasn't sure if the ashes had been moved or not. The place where the marker was put is near where Toth had put up a setup for a telescope. Michaud said Toth would take his classes out there to look at the stars.

The Etruscan Woman graces the presence of the ATT courtyard. While her history may be full of blemishes and her final resting-place may be controversial, the statue still sits tall.

Emma Continues to Roam LSC

By Sarah Donaghy

There has been a long tradition of hauntings and mysterious happenings at Lyndon State College. Stories of ghosts have been passed down from student to student through the years but one of the most intriguing, and one based on an actual person who has lived on the grounds is that of the late Emma Vail.

Emma Vail married Théodore N. Vail in 1869, and lived on the property with her husband in what was then called Speedwell Farm. She loved the home and some claim that, as she was in life, she is reluctant to leave even after death.

While the stories of her existence have popped up in other areas of the school, most of the alleged activities have centered around the Alexander Twilight Theater. According to Kari Bailey in her article "The Many Faces of Emma Vail" in the winter 1992-1993 issue of the Twin Tower Topics, during a ventriloquist act in the theater a glass of water fell and rolled to the edge of the stage. To the surprise of those present, instead of falling from the stage the glass righted itself moments before the fall should have taken place. Since that time no one has been able to recreate the incident without the glass shattering.

Perhaps the best known incident by students today is security's interaction with the ghost's wheelchair. The chair, usually locked in a closet and only used in theatrical productions, was found in the hallway by Lyndon State Security as they did their nightly rounds. The chair was taken to a supply closet and locked inside only to be found rolling alone down the hallway again moments later.

Whether fact or a series of hoaxes and coincidences, the activity Emma's alleged wonderings have been acknowledged by many



Emma Vail's Wheelchair

over the years leaving students to wonder the halls of the buildings on the land she used to call home. unknown first wife of T. N. Vail still

Alligator Pit

By Valerie Pierce

On the LSC campus there are some rooms that students do not have access to, or may not even know exist. There is one such room that has been given the name "Alligator Pit."

The Alligator Pit is a boiler room that can be found in the basement of ATT. If you go past the glass display cases and the TV station you will find it, Patty Cross, Administrative Assistant for Maintenance, said. Cross also said that the title of "Alligator Pit" may have been given to the room as early as 1972.

Arthur Peake, Maintenance Supervisor, said that water seeps into the room and that water may still be there. Pat Webster, Library Cataloger, said the room may have received its name because of the texture of the floor.

The room is dark with only one out of three lights working. There is a boiler and other machinery down there, as well as water that is seeping out of the wall on one side of the room. There are grooves in the floor that are taking the water towards a drain. It looks like a place an alligator might like.

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Winged Victory Watches Over LSC

By Joshua James Gervais

On any given day in the Samuel Read Hall Library a goddess silently observes. The Greeks called her Nike, we call her Victory. She watches students studying in the reference section, she observes the going to and from their rooms, and she sees them waiting in front of the dining hall. This is a rather loose use of the word 'see' since she doesn't have a head, and she's a statue.

A statue called the Winged Victory of Samothrace, though you will not find an inscription on its base. It sits in a far corner of the library's third floor past the reference section. Victory is a robed

woman with a set of wings extending from her back. The original Victory is now in the Louvre Museum in Paris. According to the Louvre's website (louvre.fr) Victory was reconstructed from pieces found on the Greek island of Samothrace by Charles Champoiseau in 1863. Our Victory is a replica of this piece.

According to wikipedia.org, famous architect Frank Lloyd Wright liked to use replicas of Winged Victory in his buildings.

The library's website has more information on how the statue came to its current location (<http://www.lsc.vsc.edu/library/victory.html>).



Photo by: Tabitha Fitzgerald

Professor Fought for Freedom in Guam

By Megan Renaud

Robert B. Michaud, 84, of East Burke is truly a man of many faces. The former director of purchasing at LSC is also a veteran of World War II and is currently a writer. His book Mission



40 is a history about the 19th Bombardment Group of the U.S. Army Air Corps. Michaud was in the 93rd Bomb Squadron, 19th Bombardment Group, 314th Bombardment Wing, out of GUAM.

At the youthful age of 19, Michaud decided to enter the military. He started his training as a pilot but failed medical exam. Although he was heartbroken he continued his training at an airbase in Pittsburg, Kansas. He was training to fly liaison planes, which fly close to the ground around artillery. That program was later closed and was only open for certain military personnel. He later trained as a bombardier, flying an A20, patrolling from Nova Scotia looking for German submarines. Again, that program was later closed because there were too many people enrolled. Finally, he was sent to intelligence school where he produced and worked with maps.

Michaud remembers how everyone came alive in preparation for the war. "The women took off their aprons and put on coveralls to go to work," Michaud said. "In 1941 [we] were under prepared to enter a major war like we got into but everyone suddenly came alive."

The military finally recognized his amazing writing skills and he began writing the war news bulletin everyday. This wasn't enough action for 19-year-old Michaud. "I pestered officers to get assigned to a bomb group," Michaud said.

Michaud got all the action he asked for in September of 1944. He was assigned to the 19th Bombardment group, which had

recently been in the Philippine Islands. He then trained in Kansas to fly B29s.

Michaud and the rest of the 19th Bombardment made it to GUAM on January 16, 1945. Michaud describes his actions in GUAM as "brutal" but they had to be done because the Japanese wouldn't quit fighting.

Michaud describes himself as a "hyper guy" and he couldn't sleep on the plane rides between missions. Sometimes they would be 17-hour flights and the engines would often lull the other soldiers to sleep. He was usually exhausted when he finished each mission. However, Michaud found the time to write in his journal about what was happening in the war. In the end he filled two small notebooks full of stories and recollections.

After the war ended Michaud and other soldiers were told that they could take maps and pictures of the war home with them. Michaud carried some with him and sent a large box home to keep. However, he kept them in a closet for some years after the war where they just got dusty.

In 1990 Michaud became a member of the 19th Bombardment Association and was asked to send things he had written to California where they would be published and the soldier's stories would be told. Michaud sent two journal entries to California but was unhappy about the product. Michaud took it upon himself to tell his own story about the war and the 19th Bombardment group.

The result was his book Mission 40. There are amazing pictures, maps, and entries that talk about World War II and its occurrences. He dedicated the book to his wife and to five of his Burlington, VT comrades who served in the Air Force.

Michaud donated all his profits from the book to a scholarship fund for the LSC Rescue Squad. "It sold well and people wrote checks and mailed them to the college," he said. In 1991 the scholarship fund collected between \$12,000 and \$14,000. Every year two to three students who are

active with the rescue squad and need financial assistance are rewarded \$500 per year toward their tuition.

If you would like to read this fascinating piece of history and recollections or would like to just look at the intense pictures, it is available in the LSC library.

Michaud is also the author of Salute to Burlington Vermont. This book is full of the history and childhood memories of Michaud growing up in Burlington. It includes topics such as the great flood of 1927, the Burlington airport development, and maps of Burlington. If you would like to look at this piece of work you can contact Megan Renaud at LSC Box 7454.



Bombing in Guam

Remembering T.N. Vail

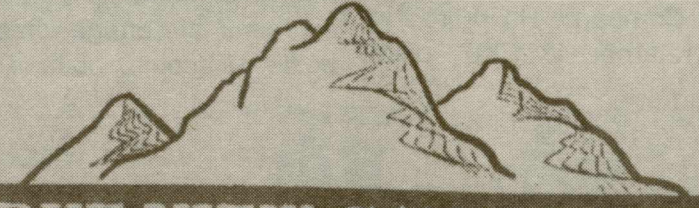
By Amanda Wozniak

Part of the original foundation of Theodore Newton Vail's Mansion still stands in front of LSC's present day Vail Building. The foundation was left as a preservation of history. It reminds people everyday of the history behind LSC and T.N. Vail.

Vail was a very important person to the creation of LSC. He was the first president of AT&T. When he visited Lyndon in 1883, he had his first good night's sleep in years, stated the Center for Rural Studies. He enjoyed it so much that he bought a farm overlooking the town as a retreat from industrial life. In the following years he added 20 more farms and a white mansion. Vail's farms served as jobs for many people. In 1910 the Vail Agricultural School was organized and was open to all Vermont boys to teach them the industry. In 1915 Vail gave his estate to Vermont and it was officially named Theodore N. Vail Agricultural School and Farms. Throughout the next few years a camp was also set up there for 150 boys, to teach them haying, woodcutting, and gardening. Girls were also taught trades such as sewing and food-canning.

Vail died in 1920 and since the school was not self-sustaining it was forced to be shut down. It was bought by Lyndon Institute who then sold it to the State of Vermont to form LSC in the 1950s.


Vail was not only responsible for the start of LSC. During his lifetime he also saved Lyndon Institute from financial problems, helped bring electricity to the town and the first paved road which led up to his estate. Without Vail this College wouldn't be here today. The foundation of the mansion wall remains today as a reminder that Vail made LSC possible.



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T.N. Vail Drank Scotch with the President of the US

By Jake Mardin

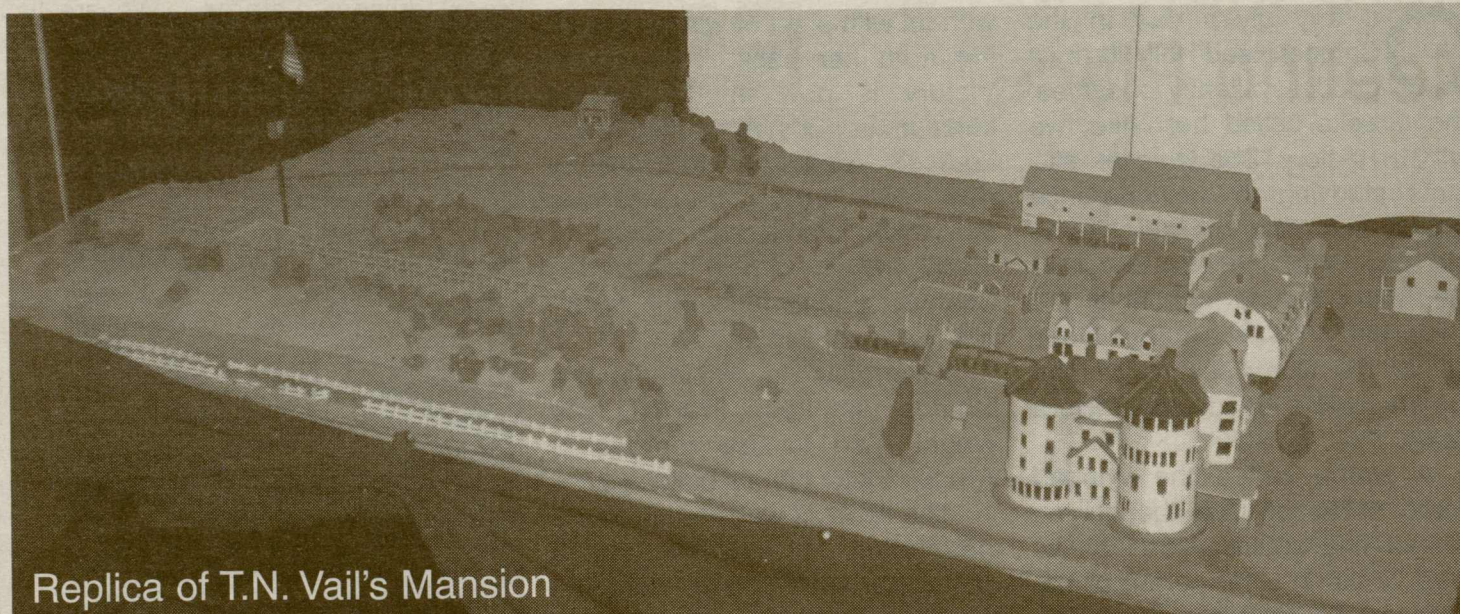
Although not widely known by the campus community, the T.N. Vail Museum is a home to many artifacts from his summer home that gives one an idea of the kind of man Theodore Newton Vail was.

The museum is located on the left side of the hallway that leads to Public Safety. A marker on the door says that Professor Darrell L. Casteel and his students created the museum in 1976. Nearly everything in the room is from Vail's manor, including the wood paneling.

The first thing that comes into view when you open the door is a large fireplace grill, which has an engraving that says "Class of 1914 to T.N. Vail." One can look directly to the left and see one of Vail's old desks, which has an antique typewriter and telephone on it. It is likely the phone is from the early 1900's. The phone is significant to Vail's life because he was the General Manager of Bell Telephone Company, which became the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, more commonly known today as AT&T.

Vail, who was born on July 16, 1845 and died on April 16, 1920, held several different jobs in his lifetime. "Doe," as he was nicknamed, worked as a farmer, telegraph operator, schoolmaster, and frontiersman with Western Union as a station agent, and a mail clerk. He spent seven years with the United States Railway Mail Service, where he worked his way up to General Superintendent. While there, he developed a system that was a precursor to today's ZIP code. Mail was able to travel faster than ever, thanks in large part to Vail.

Meanwhile, Alexander Graham Bell had invented a device that would change the world, the telephone. Bell's father asked Vail to invest in the telephone. Vail agreed to do so and quit his job and became General Manager of Bell Telephone Company. He retired in 1889 but returned in 1907, once



Replica of T.N. Vail's Mansion

again as General Manager, only now the company was known as AT&T.

AT&T was having trouble with competition, so Vail decided that the best route to take would be to create a long-distance phone connection. This process was several years in the making. In the early days of telephone, the company would rent telephones to customers in one city. This process then went from city to city, and then the cities were connected. AT&T then started selling shares, one of which can be found to the right of the desk on the wall, and the company became a huge success; at one time it was the biggest company in the world.

Above the telephone on the desk are several books, including a biography on Vail and the history of the telephone. At one time, a single playing card could be found in one of the bottom drawers of the desk. Vail was a notorious solitaire player, and would regularly play during business meetings. Among the items on the wall above the desk are a signed photo of Vail, as well as one of his U.S. passports.

To the right of the desk is a wheelchair, which supposedly belonged to either his wife or his sister, both of whom were named Emma. Next to the desk is a cabinet, which contains such items as a container of cottage cheese and a bottle of scotch, both of which he

was an avid fan of.

Next to the cabinet, on the far left end of the room, there are two chairs. The chairs are very large and have coffin-shaped boxes attached to the back of them. The arms on both chairs are very wide, especially at the ends. The names engraved inside the boxes on the chairs are T.N. Vail and William Howard Taft, who served as the 27th President of the U.S. from 1909-1913. These chairs were designed the way they were to serve both men's unique characteristics. First, the chairs are big because both were very large men. Second, the wide arms were made so that the men would have a spot to put their glasses of scotch. Third, the boxes on the back were for purely practical reasons. Both men could sit and talk from a distance because sound would resonate inside the boxes. Also, on cold days when a breeze was traveling through the house, the chairs could be placed near a fireplace and would block the breeze while retaining the heat.

Between the chairs there is another antique telephone, most likely one used to make long-distance calls. To the right of the chairs in the corner

there is an old phone employee toolbox, which looks like a briefcase.

A few feet to the right of the toolbox there is a desk, which has several old news clippings in a binder as well as pictures of his family. The most unique thing on the desk is a folder, which contains several old documents. In the folder, along with business documents, there is the first telephone advertisement, as well as the first phone book, dated Dec. 21, 1878. The book, which is really a small sheet of paper, has the names of fifty people and places.

To the right, in the corner, is a sundial that was in Vail's yard. On the far right end of the room, there is another cabinet that contains several items, including Vail's walking stick, hat, and his diaries, as well as news clippings. Finally, to the right of the cabinet is a diorama of Vail's mansion.



T.N. Vail's Chair



T.N. Vail's Desk



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Wooden Gazebo More than Just a Meeting Place

By Nicholas R. Plante

It beckons for attention in front of the contemporary architectural style of the Vail Building behind it. Its wooden structure seems out of place; out of time. People sit in it and chat while waiting for a ride.

LSC's gazebo was built to remind the people who see it and walk by it that T.N. Vail's mansion once stood where the T.N Vail Center is today. According to the head line of an article in "The Critic," in 1989, "Gazebo stands as a reminder of Lyndon's past." According to the article the gazebo was constructed in 1989 to remind people of the past, but also as part of a beatification project. The article said that all the money was donated from alumni to restore some of the school's history. "The reason for this [Gazebo] was a growing desire by the Alumni to try and restore some of the original Vail Mansion that was replaced in 1974," Scott Morin, former "Critic," reporter, said.

Today the gazebo is visible to all who enter LSC through Vail. In good weather people can be seen inside the gazebo socializing or waiting for rides.

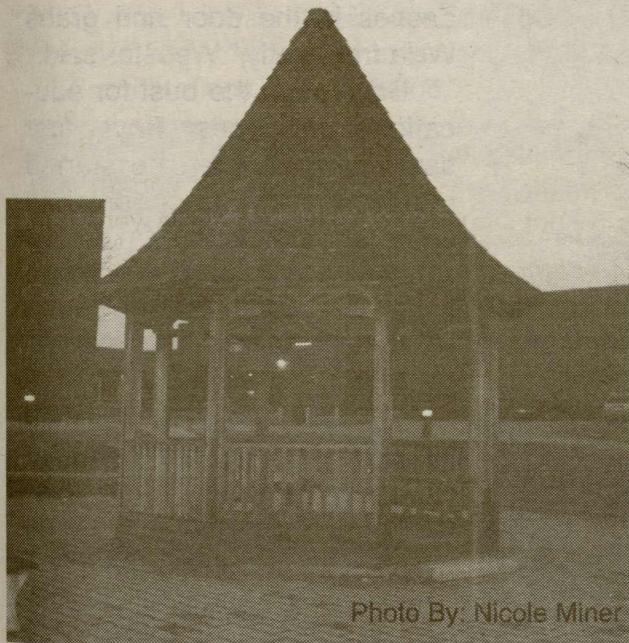


Photo By: Nicole Miner

Grand Adventures Out West

By: Nicole Miner

Every spring break Alison Lathrop, Geology Professor, takes a group of students to the Grand Canyon. The trip was started by her predecessor, Bud Ebbett, and has been growing ever since. It is a two-credit course, including a few classes before the trip to prepare, and a few classes after the trip to discuss and share the knowledge obtained. The theme of the trip is contiguity in time and space.

The trip is not restricted to science majors. The only requirements are one geology class and permission from Lathrop. Students that are interested need to sign up a year in advance. "It [the grand canyon] is a unique part of the world.

We are lucky to have it in our own country," Lathrop said.

The cost of the trip is placed on the students' account as a lab fee. Financial aid can help pay for it. Students leave from LSC before Spring break and arrive in Las Vegas. The study the plateau of the Grand Canyon and then travel further west to hike in the Sierra Mountains.

Lathrop enjoys this trip because the Grand Canyon is a large enough area to, "see a story from beginning to end." Everyone can benefit from this class. "It is a dramatic place. I am glad there are folks that want to see it," Lathrop said.



LSC students explore and study the Sierras

Impostor Continued from pg 3

Calhoun, who had been an alcoholic. DuPont wanted to see if there could be any contact with the spirit. The men did not see or hear anything all night long. In the morning, however, the scientist heard the sound of smashing glass. Ironically, DuPont believed that the artist or himself, an occult expert would see the ghost first because the scientist was "the rational one."

With the discovery of the altered transcript from Harvard, DuPont was immediately called back from Chicago and a discussion soon followed. He then signed a letter of resignation and was replaced. According to Michaud when the news became public the press was told that "DuPont was a brilliant man who could have earned the degree had he spent the time to do it."

Stringer later suggested to DuPont that "he go back [to school] and then come back to the college." However, LSC never saw him again.

Surprisingly, the teacher was not alone in the school system. His wife, Jody, was a home economics teacher at Lyndon Institute and taught the same years as her husband did. McGowan remembers

that for one fashion show fabric was draped over students instead of sewn garments.

DuPont's departure strongly affected people. Michaud believes this new teacher was in his early thirties. He recalled that the teacher was "well liked and popular." However, to the dismay of his students, grades in DuPont's classes were dismissed.

LSC Flag Flies High with Pride

By Megan Renaud

It can be seen driving back to the LSC campus from St. Johnsbury. It can be seen driving back to campus from Burke Mountain. It stands high overlooking the campus. It is the LSC flagpole. The flagpole was said to be the tallest in the state of Vermont in 2001.

This is all very obvious as it stands tall overlooking most of Lyndonville. What most people don't know about the flagpole is that it used to be maintained by a gentleman. This gentleman only had one arm and he used to climb the soaring flagpole just to paint it.

On special occasions there is a treasured flag that flies even bigger

over the campus. This gigantic flag requires eight people just to raise it. The flag was also said to be the largest flag in the state of Vermont in 2001.

As new comers visit the campus one of the first things they gaze at in the Vail parking lot is the flag. The white stands for purity and innocence. The red stands for hardiness and bravery. Finally, the blue stands for vigilance, perseverance, and justice.

These qualities represent America and the fine Americans who inhabit it. LSC is proud to honor such an admirable flag.

Bring Back The Past Explore LSC Archives

By Valerie Pierce

When walking into the LSC library most people stay in the main open areas to use the computers and the general book collection. There are only a couple of rooms that are not connected to the general collection. One is the Vermont room and tucked away beyond it is the Archives room.

The archives are devoted to holding all kinds of materials related to the history of the college. Donna Edwards, Circulation Supervisor, said that the materials are all catalogued online. Requests may be made at the reference desk; the reference librarian can retrieve items for patrons to look at in the library.

Only staff are allowed to physically look through the archives because some of the materials are rare and cannot be replaced, Edwards added.

Pat Webster, Library Cataloger, is the person to contact for any information about the archives. Webster said that the collection includes items such as yearbooks, catalogues, and old press releases, as well as copies of past Critics. The most fragile pieces are protected with acid free package materials so that they are preserved.

According to the LSC website "The library will make a special effort to acquire LSC publications and

materials about Lyndon State College and/or written by LSC authors." It also mentions that the range of materials could be books, periodicals, or other documents.



Library Archives

Willa's Bust on Display in Library

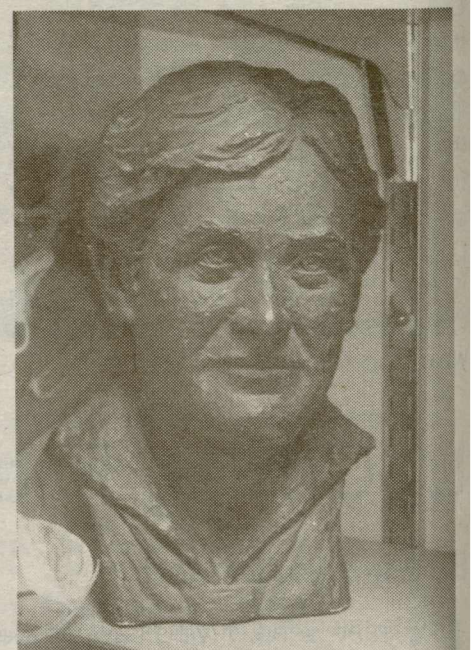
By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

A small statue of Willa Cather's head peers out from a corner at students and faculty who enter the LSC library. The bust can be seen sitting on a shelf inside one of the alcoves near the copy machine.

The bust calls attention to Cather, Pat Webster, Cataloger at the LSC library, said. Often, when groups of 6th and 7th graders come through the library on a tour they often mistake the image of Cather for that of a man, Webster said. Professor of English Alan Boye has also been known to "borrow" the bust of Cather. "Alan dashes in the door and grabs Willa frequently," Webster said.

Boye uses the bust for educational purposes. Boye first saw the bust when he started teaching at LSC, nearly 20 years ago. He found it odd that a bust of Willa Cather existed because Cather was known to have a dislike of her own image, Boye said.

The library obtained the bust as part of a promotional deal. Nearly 25 years ago the library bought a collection of book by American authors. As part of the deal they got to pick a bust of a famous American author of their choosing. They chose Willa Cather, Webster said.



Bust of Willa Cather

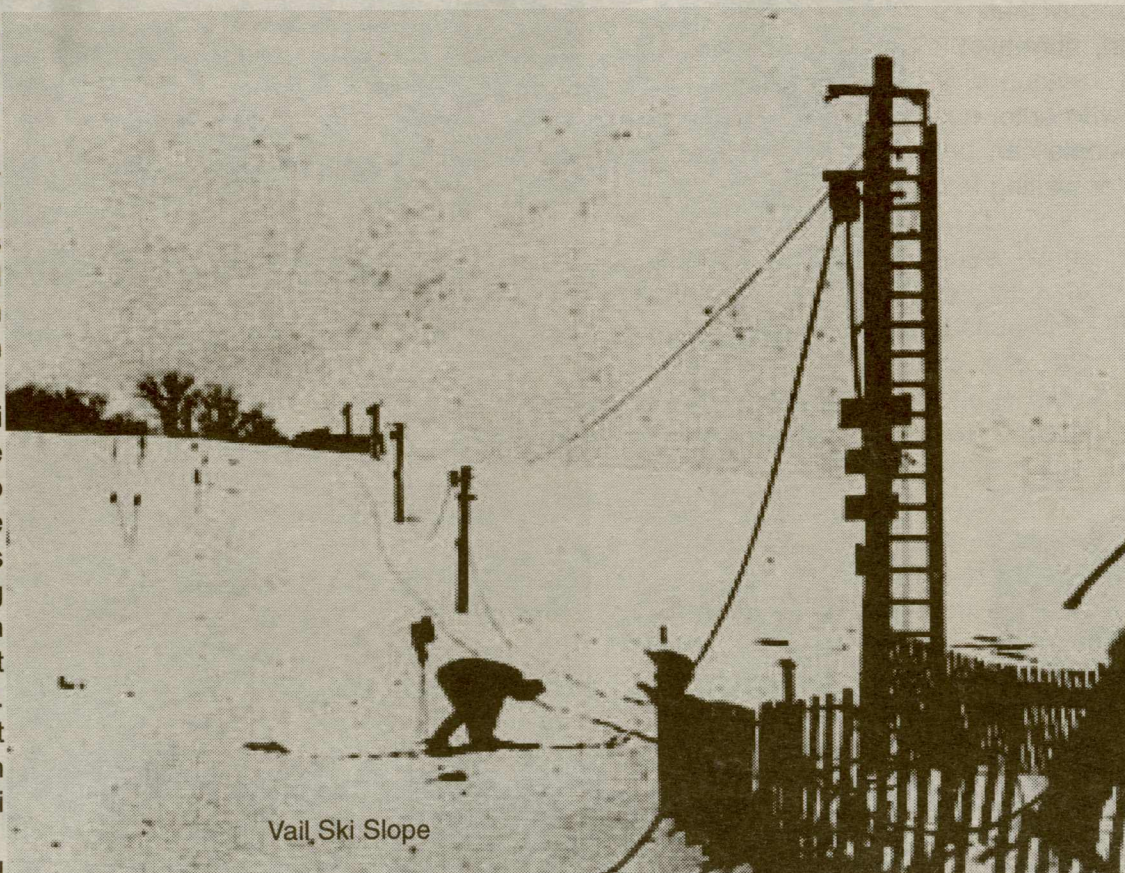
Vail Hill Ski Slope

By Kelly Colby

One of the benefits to attending LSC is the availability of recreational skiing near the campus. There are five separate ski areas within 30 miles of LSC, but there was a time when students had things even easier. From 1963 to 1970 LSC had an on-campus ski area.

The now defunct ski area had a single towline that ran some 300 feet up Vail Hill to where the President's house stands today. It is not surprising that a ski area located on the LSC campus would not be a particularly large one. In fact, it had only a 60-foot drop and may have been one of the smallest ski areas in Vermont.

The ski area was used for the student population, having a slope for night skiing and occasional local racing competitions. The increasing popularity of surrounding ski areas, particularly



Vail Ski Slope

Burke Mountain and Lyndon Outing Club Ski Area, apparently caused use of the LSC ski area to drop off. The Ski area was finally closed in 1970.

The information that is available on this long closed ski area is only part of a larger project developed by an LSC alumnus. The New England Lost Ski Area Project was founded by Jeremy Davis and looks into the history of lost ski areas throughout the New England area. Davis graduated from LSC with a meteorology degree in 2000. The information above can be found at



Vail Ski Slope

The Critic Through The Ages

By Joshua James Gervais

LSC's news has been reported by a variety of different papers, starting with the Verlynette when LSC was the Lyndon Normal School, all the way up to the Critic today. These papers included the Verlynette (1938-1945), the Weekly Blue Sheet (1949-1952), the College Weekly (1952), the Hub which became the Lyn News (1953-1960), and the Critic (1965 to present).

In these old papers there are many familiar topics: Getting students to go to on campus activities, budgetary worries, and concerns over enrollment rates. For example in 1966 the Critic ran a cartoon making fun of the phallic shaped build up of ice that appears in the fountain in front of HAC every winter. In those ways LSC has remained constant over the years, but these old papers can also show us how things have changed over the years.

In past decades there was a greater focus on the world outside LSC. Past papers have informed students about the communities around the school as well as world news. During the 1980 presidential election, an entire front page was dedicated to a comparison of the candidates.

The paper is a measure of the status of the school at that point in time. In 1990 the front page sported a story about oil leaking into the pond next to LAC. The Verlynette printed a letter from Rita L. Bole about the importance of having a paper. "Every student should strive to 'make' the columns of the new paper at least once during the year," Bole said.

In the past there have been cosmetic changes; every year brought a new staff with new ideas about what the paper should look like. Many papers had one or more comic strips mostly created by students, but occasional syndicated comics were used.

Not just the look of the paper has changed; looking through old issues of the Critic can uncover pictures of current faculty members when they were more youthful. These and other buried treasures can be found in the library's archives, where collections of old issues of the Critic and other LSC publications, can be found.

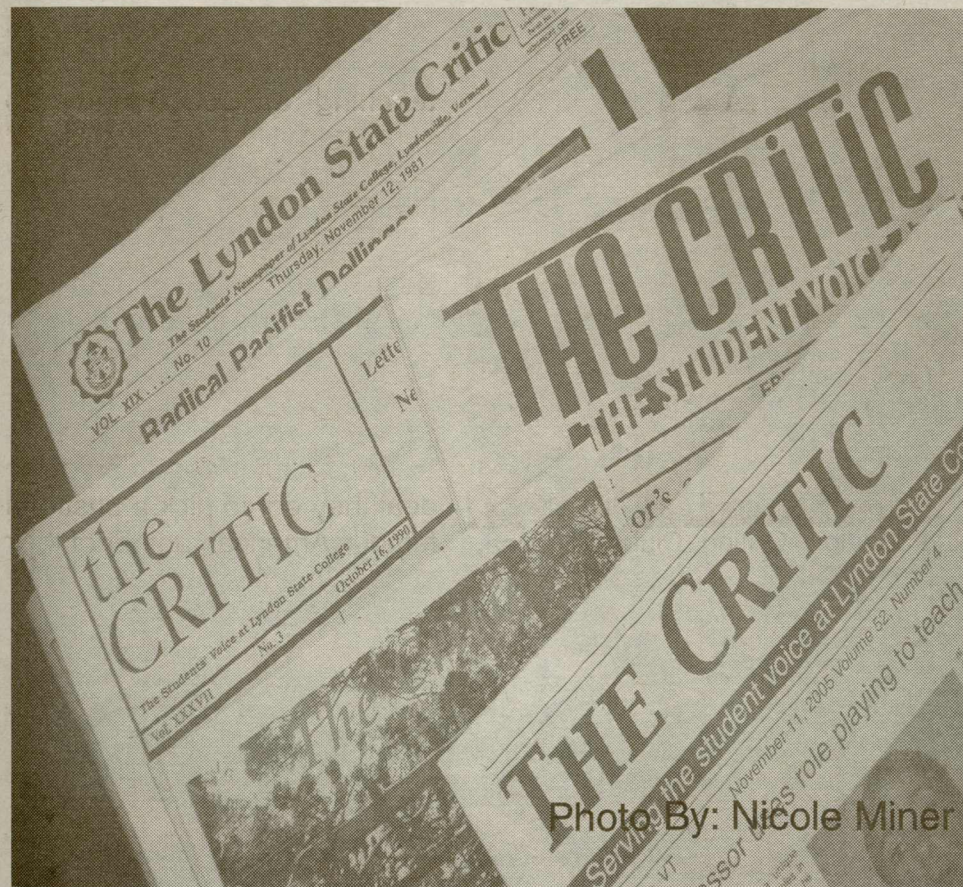


Photo By: Nicole Miner

Why We Are the Hornets

By Amanda Gigliotti

How did Lyndon State College students become the hornets? According to NewsNet, the college became the home of the hornets in the early 1960's when the only building was the Vail Mansion. At that time, sports teams traveled to away games in an old green, noisy vehicle and was driven by whoever was available to drive. Upon arrival at their destination, LSC players began to hear their opponents welcome them with, "here come the green hornets." The name stuck while the color didn't.



Kerrin Jeromin and The Hornet

Success Stories of Graduates From Lyndon State

By Nicholas R. Plante

Though small and located in a relatively rural area, the quality of an LSC education can be calibrated by examining what the school's alumni have accomplished. Professionals in journalism, meteorology, education, business and many other success stories have originated from the education of LSC, Hannah Nelson, Director of Alumni Relations and Development, said.

Probably the best-known and celebrated LSC alum, Jim Cantore, on-camera meteorologist for The Weather Channel, isn't alone in showing success as Nelson pointed out. Cantore has covered big stories for The Weather Channel and according to their website he's considered the "Mike Wallace," of meteorology. Along with Cantore, Nelson provided information about other professionals who have graduated

from LSC.

According to LSC's Alumni magazine, "Twin Tower Topics," Jeff Oskensky class of 1987 is the Deputy Chief of National Oceanic and Atmospheric for the National Weather Service. The magazine described his job as making policy for aviation in order for aircraft to avoid volcanic ash.

Another alum spotlighted by "Twin Towers," was Theresa

Pauling, attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice. Pauling currently the Deputy District Counsel in the New York office supervises the attorneys who deal with U.S. immigration and naturalization.

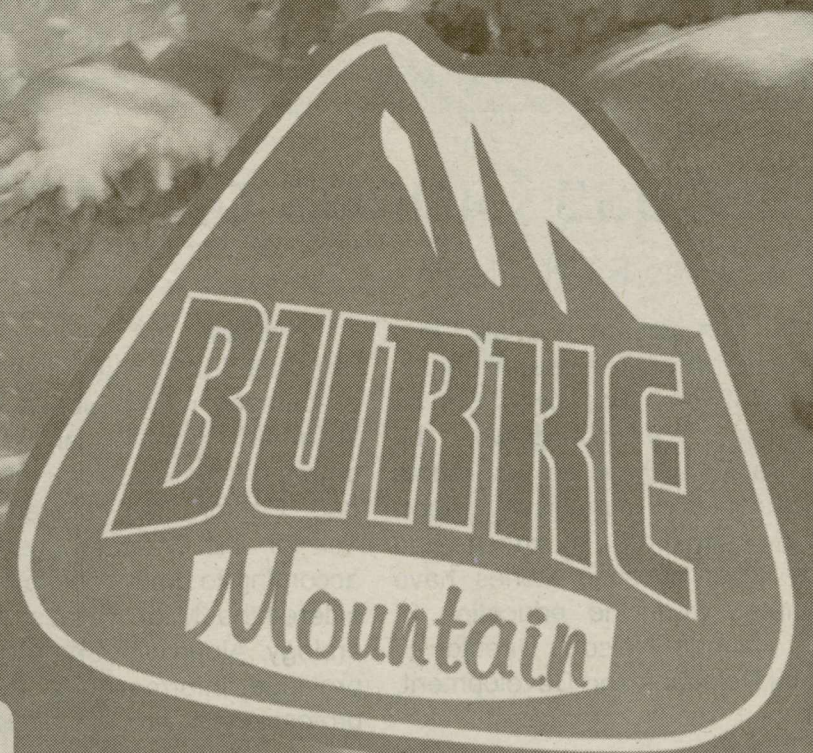
Along with those highlighted there are many more alumni who are doing great things and are very successful in the professions they work in, Nelson said.

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Fun Page...

Horoscopes

By Madame Divine

Aries Mar. 21- April 20
The Ram
You may feel a bit shy in large social gathering, but relax. Everyond is just out to have a good time. Your stand-offish manner may make people weary of talking to you and you could be missing out on a great opportunity. Take a chance.

Taurus Apr. 21- May 21
The Bull
Stop procrastinating. You know you need to get stuff done, so do it. You can enjoy your free even more once you don't have all these things hanging over your head. Sometimes it is not fun to grow up and take responsibility, but someone has to do it.

Gemini May 22- June 21
The Twins
Get into the holiday spirit. Volunteer your time at a soup kitchen or donate a toy to a charity. A little bit of love goes a long way during the holiday season. No one likes a scrooge.

Cancer June 22- July 22
The Crab
Don't be fussy. There is a grouch in every crowd, don't let it be you. Show off your spunky personality and allow people to love you for the person you really are. Complaining will only get you the cold shoulder.

Leo July 23- Aug 22
The Lion
Don't let life get you down. The sun is shining somewhere; all you have to do is find it. Take things one at a time, don't over burden yourself.

Virgo Aug 23- Sept 23
The Virgin
You are a crazy animal. Say hello to that special someone you have had your eye on. Show them how outrageous you can be. People like a little excitement in their lives, and you are just e person to give it to them.

Libra Sept 24- Oct 23
The Scales
Bad things happen. You can't explain them or even begin to understand them. Look within yourself for your own truth. Happiness can only be achieved through acceptance.

Scorpio Oct 24- Nov 22
The Scorpion
You have a sharp tongue and you are liable to hurt yourself or someone else. Be careful, think before you speak. If you get frustrated or angry take a moment to yourself to relax before you face your problem. Otherwise you may do some real damage.

Sagittarius Nov 23- Dec 21
The Archer
Aim high. You are constantly under estimating yourself. People believe in you and invest their time in you, don't let them down. Confidence goes a long way.

Capricorn Dec 22- Jan 20
The Goat
The holidays sit hard on you. Who needs the added stress? Try to enjoy the season, pick one thing you like about the holidays and focus on that. Maybe get yourself something special to lift your gloomy holiday mood.

Aquarius Jan 21- Feb 19
The Water Carrier
Ok, there is over achieving and then there is over doing it. You are riding a fine line. Find what is most important to you and concentrate on that. Let some of the smaller things go. You are not a super hero. No one will fault you for doing what is best for you.

Pisces Feb 20- Mar 20
The Fishes
You have a hard time knowing when to open up and when to pull back. Let your gut instincts do the deciding. Better safe than sorry. Who is more trustworthy than yourself?

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V	H	F	R	E	S	H	M	E	N	K	T	K	L
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Reporters
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Advisor
Alan Boye

A New Social Science Teacher at LSC

By Sarah Donaghy

There is another new face in the LSC faculty this semester. Paul Searls, Born and raised in Philadelphia, is now working in the Social Science Department here at Lyndon. While he enjoyed big-city life at NYU where he got his PHD, he was attracted to Vermont as an agreeable place to raise his family—two sons aged three and one-with his wife of fifteen years.

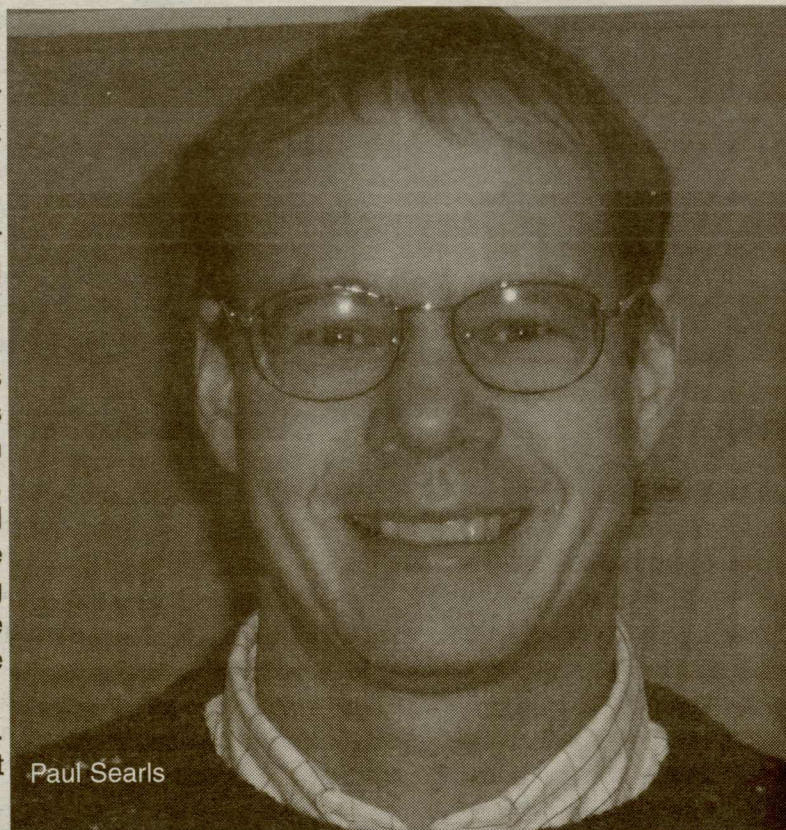
He may be better known to some students as de-jay Paul at our college radio station, one of his favorite campus activities. In his past work at UVM he worked with their radio station, WRUV, for nine years, which is what he misses most about that college, but enjoying his work with LSC students down there he chose Lyndon for its close-knit atmosphere. He loves the egalitarian structure, everyone seemingly pushing towards one goal, that he finds in Lyndon and Danville, where he lives.

He is "obsessively" into soccer and

loves to play the guitar. He has even converted a shed on his property into an area just to play. He has set up his electric guitar and amp inside where he can play what ever he likes as loud as he likes, providing him a freedom he couldn't find in a city.

Paul is a man who's lived in his fair share of large cities, too. In fact he's lived just about everywhere, including Ireland, Boston, New York, New Jersey, and Seattle. Perhaps his most daring move was in his youth when he packed up all the belongings he could carry on him and took a bus from his home in Aspen, Colorado to Madison, Wisconsin (a city many of his friends had recommended), without any plans on where he was going to live or where he was going to work. He says that, while that was quite an adventure in his youth, it is not one he would take at this point in his life.

He enjoys his life here and teaching. "Teaching is a profession of constant growth," Searls said.



Paul Searls

Graduate Programs on Campus

By Megan Renaud

Lyndon State College is an exhilarating place to pursue a masters degree in education. LSC takes pride in providing the on-going education school teachers and administrators need. This education includes both credit and non-credit courses and workshops for the in-service K-12 community. The topics LSC covers include science, math, and social studies.

LSC offers two degrees in the graduate program for education. They are a Master of Education and a Master of Science for Teachers. The Master of education degree is a program that will help educators strengthen their instructional skills and develop their leadership abilities. Not only does it prepare them to serve in a leadership role, but it will also help them

to become more inspiring educators. The Master of Science for Teachers program includes instruction in the foundations of education, in developmentally appropriate teaching practices, and is an integrated approach to content pedagogy and research. This rigorous course of study is demanding and requires a commitment to scholarship and academic excellence.

Registration for the graduate program is the same as for the undergraduate program. Registration will occur through the registrars office and the same policies and procedure are in place as they are in the undergraduate program.

If you have any questions about the graduate program you can contact admissions at 626-6413 or the Academic Dean at 626-6404.

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Serving the student voice at Lyndon State College

Lyndonville, VT

December 09, 2005 Volume 52, Number 6

FREE!

Class of 2005 Celebrates Graduation

By Mary Wheeler

Students, families, faculty, and staff gathered in the Alexander Twilight Theater as 44 Lyndon State College seniors graduated on Thursday 8 (December).

The LSC President, Carol Moore, addressed the graduating class with several parting messages including the many challenges that lie ahead, dreaming big, and visions of the future. "Never forget to give back to others and seize your own destiny," Moore said. "We at Lyndon wish you the best and will always be here for you. Rise to your potential and make the world a better place."

Retiring in the spring of 2006 after almost forty years of teaching in the Social Science department, Professor Robert Dixon was chosen as the commencement guest speaker. Dixon also mentioned the many challenges that this graduating class will face and their roles in society. "The most important words you will hear will come from Carol Moore as she personally congratulates you on your accomplishments," Dixon said. "You have all earned the right to be here and are all beautiful people. Good luck and God bless you all."

The ceremony concluded with the presentation of the graduates by Barclay Tucker, Assistant Professor of Digital and Graphic Arts. Immediately preceding the ceremony were refreshments provided in the Alexander Twilight lobby. Music before and after were provided by music professor William Cotte.

"It feels really good to have finally graduated," Keresey Proctor, a television graduate, said.

The 2005 Graduating Class:

Heather Jean Ashford
Donna Marie Bigelow
Katherine Marie-Francis Bleau
Wendy Nina Boucher
Carolyn Suzanne Brown
Julie Marie Cadorette
Benjamin James Carlson
Sally Ann Carpenter
Jeremy Jay Collins
Michael Gregory Curtin
Casey Ann Curtis
Crystal Marie Darling
Keith Allen Dwyer
Autumn Rae Fahey
Jodi Allyn Fleurie

Amanda M. Gigliotti
Patricia Marie Gilding
Deborah Denise Goodwin
Cynthia Rose Gordon
Victor William Grosser
Holly Alice Hartwell
Tor Bjorn Heisholt
Narek Kirakossian
Jodi Marie Knight
Jill Latheria Legacy
Jessica Anne Martin
Rachel Erin Maxwell
Megan J. Moody
Roxanne Dallas Moulton
Cheryl Anne Noyes

Brett James Payette
Amanda Lynn Piette
Michael Anthony Procanik
Keresey Pearl Junelle Proctor
Megan Lee Renaud
Corinne L. Sackett
Thomas John Stabinski
Abigail Lynn Stoutimore
Tenisa Margaret Turnbaugh
Carla Marie Vecchione
Maggie L. Warner
Jeremy Stephen White
Julie Ann Williams
Kristi Lynn Zola

Chancellor and Union Write Compromise Language to Restore Early Retirement Option to Some Faculty

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

The Vermont State College Faculty Union plans to vote on whether or not to approve changes made to its contract. Julie Theoret, Chapter Chair of LSC Union, said the changes are being made to the early retirement option that was removed from the contract. The new language is intended to give the early retirement plan to faculty members that had already been promised it, Thoriet said. It does not give the early retirement option to incoming faculty.

Concerns have been raised about the wording of the revised section on retirement benefits Theoret said. Some words seem to

have been left out. "I think it was an unintentional oversight," Theoret said. There is also some concern over how much time voting union members are being given to consider the new language being used to clarify the change.

Earlier in the year, during contract negotiations, VSC faculty lost certain retirement benefits they had been promised when they had been hired. The original agreement had been to give teachers who had received tenure and had been teaching in the VSC system for 15 years the option to retire at age 55 and be paid half their salaries up until the age of 65. They also retained their healthcare bene-

fits.

After the Faculty Union voted no confidence in the Chancellor, last spring during the contract negotiations, the Vermont State Legislature formed a legislative study committee to look into the Faculty Unions' grievances. The legislative committee then asked the Chancellor's Office and the Faculty Union to agree on the contract, except for the retirement plan aspect of it. The Chancellor's Office and the Faculty Union were then to come to a compromise regarding the retirement plan. That compromise is to be voted on by all full time faculties in the Vermont system next Monday, December 12.



LSC Gives This Holiday Season

By Amanda Gilman

Along with bright decorations, holiday parties, and the annual LSC "Santa theft," December brings with it a season of giving. Each year the faculty, staff, and students at LSC sponsor a hand-to-hand family. An anonymous local family is selected and assigned to LSC by the hand-to-hand coordinators and a detailed profile of each family member (minus their names) is provided to aid in the gift buying.

Donna Wheeler, the Director of Conferences, said LSC is provided with information for gift tags such as the age, sex, clothing size, and interests of each child. This year, each of the eight family members sponsored by LSC will be given two fun items (selected based on their given interests), an outfit, and a winter coat with corresponding accessories. In addition LSC also collects holiday food items for a food basket to accompany the gifts.

The hand-to-hand program is approximately twenty years old and is said to have been started by a concerned citizen, the late Izabelle Noyes. In recent years the program has been coordinated by Sherry Noyes (no relation) and Jane Con.

This new tradition is "kept alive by the generosity of everyone here at LSC," Darlene Gilman, Administrative Assistant in the Career Services Office said. Anyone wishing to contribute to or get more information on the hand-to-hand program can contact Darcie Miles, Executive Assistant to the President.

Hard News...

Computers Chuck Full With Students

By Amanda Gigliotti

There seems to be a computer shortage on campus. People scramble around trying to find one, and short lines are sometimes formed. Where can one go to get computer help? How many computers are there on campus? When are the busiest times for computer labs?

Information Technology, or IT, is the office where people can bring their computer software problems, such as "spyware" and viruses. These problems are then fixed by work study students. Each visit is free, as other colleges, charge a flat rate of fifty to a hundred and fifty dollars per visit. The office helps students, staff and faculty of the college and is open Monday through Friday, 8-4pm.

IT has a system that keeps watch on

all of the computer servers all the time. If a problem occurs after hours, the system then contacts a staff member. Michael Dente, Assistant Chief Technology Officer, describes this as "[keeping] an eye on things from home."

According to Dente, there are a total of fourteen computer labs on campus with some labs having as little as four computers. Most of these labs are updated on a three year replacement cycle. For the LAC 344 twenty four hour lab, however, it is updated about every one to two years because of its frequent use. With labs that are used less, the "hand me down" method takes place, where computers are passed down from other labs that are visited more often.

By Madame Divine

Of all the labs on campus, only the LAC 344 lab has helpers. These eight lab monitors clean and keep an eye on things. They can help with basic computer issues, such as with disks and printers. While Dente would like the lab to be fully covered, this is not possible because of the small amount of lab monitors. "We try to cover times through out the day, mostly after 3 to 4," Dente said.

One can find that the labs are busiest before breaks, during midterms and the last week of the semester. Also, between the hours of 10 and 2pm are areas of high traffic. Dente suggests that "if the twenty four hour lab is full, one can always check the one in LAC 411." This lab has rough-

ly the same software as the other lab, but they need to ask security to unlock it for them. The IDM and DGA labs are the only two computer labs that are constantly locked because they are for people of those majors only.

To help prevent less stress in the future, it is suggested that students give input to the Administration to get another computer lab set up. "The more input, the better," Dente said. While there are not enough computers, "we try to do our best."

For more information or computer lab locations, please visit the college website at <http://www.lyndonstate.edu/infotech/> or call Information Technology at 626-6456.

New Ramp

By Valerie Pierce

Attention all skaters, a new popular attraction has been added to the basketball courts beside the Stonehenge parking lot; a skateboarding ramp. It has recently been built by the LSC Daggers.

Steve Mahone, a ski resort management major, said that the ramp took two weekends to build, a total of four days. There were five people who worked on it with help from other volunteers. Mahone said that the top surface of the ramp is weather proof and that it cost more than any of the other material they used.

The funding for the ramp came through the LSC Student Government with \$1,000 from the Daggers. The total cost of the ramp came to \$4,200. Mahone said Jonathan Davis, Annette Roberts, Brennan Colby and the maintenance crew helped with this project.

Jeff Scarpino, also a ski resort management major, said that the ramp is four feet high and sixteen feet wide. Steve Mahone added that it is also forty-two feet long. Scarpino estimated that there are about fifteen people using the ramp and that many of them are regulars.

The Daggers are a club that, according to their website, "represents students whose lives revolve around snowboarding, skiing, skating, and biking at Lyndon State College." Mahone said that there are about seventy members and thirty of them are "hard core." The Website can be found at www.freewebs.com/lscdaggers.

New Changes To Residence Halls Rules

By Sarah Donaghy

The holidays are just ahead, which means that the fall semester of 2005 is drawing to a close. By noon on December 17th most on-campus students will have left the Residence Halls to celebrate and have a rest from the past few months of studying. A few will stay behind, however, and for them this year will bring changes from past holidays on campus.

One of these changes is the expense of staying on campus. In previous years staying on campus meant paying extra costs to continue their housing. This year, in order to help students who work in the area, the college is allowing students with good academic standing and proof of work on campus or in the area to stay on campus for free. The arrangements need to be worked out ahead of time, of course, and a schedule from work or call from your employer may be necessary.

For some students and employers the inability for on-campus workers to stay on during the busy holiday season due to expense of housing has been a problem. In the past students have lost money or may have lost the opportunity to be hired to others who live in the area or employers may find themselves short staffed at critical times. This holiday shortage includes the on campus offices which are staying open, with the exception of holidays, throughout the break.

Another change is in room inspection. When the students leave rooms are checked to ensure that windows are closed and no potential fire hazards, such as appliances left plugged into outlets, are left behind. During these room inspections prohibited items are often found. Candles, toasters, ungrounded plugs and other items that are not allowed in the Residence Halls are confiscated. Fines will be given to

students with these items in their rooms. In the past both parties were fined for a single violation if more than one student resided in the room. Now, according to the newest version of the student handbook, occupants in violation of LSC's codes will be sent a notice for a hearing. Students can either attend the hearing and argue their case or confess to their belongings or pay the assigned sanction. This will keep roommates from having to pay for each other's belongings.

In November there was some confusion on this new policy. Some students were sent notification that their hearings had already been held. This was caused by an office miscommunication. Jonathon Davis, head of Residential Life, guarantees that all students will be given a chance for a hearing if they so choose, assuring them due process.

Favorite Holiday Traditions

By Valerie Pierce

As the holiday season approaches more signs of it began to appear around campus. There are decorations that have been hung using the colors red and green as well as a picture of a wreath and of a menorah. These bring the spirit of the season to LSC.

There are many traditions that people have during the winter holiday season. After talking to faculty and students a variety of favorite traditions were mentioned. They are focused around Christmas and Hanukkah. Another popular holiday during this season is Kwanzaa.

Christmas is a Christian holiday that is celebrated on December 25th

in memory of Jesus's birth. This is a scene that is recreated in nativity scenes that "show Jesus in a manger, Joseph and Mary in a barn (or cave) intended to accommodate farm animals, the scene sometimes includes the maji or three wise men, shepards, angels and the star of Bethlehem." This information was found on <http://en.wikipedia.org>.

A popular tradition for many is that of the Christmas tree. A couple of student's and faculties favorite traditions surround the finding and decorating of the tree. Rachel Peryea, a human services major says: "I always go out to a tree farm with my mom and we pick one out. When we bring it home, I

always decorate it. It's my own personal tradition to decorate the tree. I love seeing all the lights on the tree, it makes the Christmas season so special to me."

Dan Mintz, Liberal Arts major likes setting up a Christmas village on top of an upright piano and helping to decorate his aunt's tree. While Mary Etter, academic support, Decorates "the Christmas tree with different colored decorative birds." Etter said that it was something that her mother did and now her sons are doing a little bit on their own trees as well.

On Christmas Eve there are a

See Holiday Page 10

This Year's Senate Election Involved Little Electing

By Joshua James Gervais

This week elections were held for student senators. Kurt Heinchon and Timothy Lavigne both ran for the three open senate seats. Heinchon a sophomore Environmental Sciences major said he will not be accepting his seat due to scheduling conflicts he was only recently made aware of between the recently rescheduled senate meetings and practice for the Twilight Players.

The election was held to fill two sophomore seats and one senator-at-large seat. The Senate normally contains three senators from each class from each academic class and five senators-at-large. Each senator is responsible for serving as

the study body's in an LSC committee, spending 2 hours working in the Student Government Association office every week, and attending Senate meetings.

According to its constitution the Student Government Association purpose it to, "speak on behalf of the students by presenting student opinion to the faculty, staff, and administration of Lyndon State College." The SGA also distributes funds from the money acquired through the Student Activity Fee that all LSC students pay. The Senate is half of the SGA's Congressional branch along with the House of Representatives.

"It's a lot of work," SGA President Amanda

Ruckdeschel said. Ruckdeschel has been an active member of the student government for 4 years as a senator, vice president, and president. Ruckdeschel added that committees that senators are required to sit on make recommendations to LSC's president.

"I think it's important to be involved when so much money is at stake," Junior Senator Lars Christensen said, "and it's a lot of fun." Christensen continued stating that the Senate gives a voice to students that might not think they have one.

Voice Answering System That Works

By Nicholas R. Plante

In August of this year LSC's voice mail was revamped. The new Avaya voice mail system offers a lot more freedom in management and reduces costs, Michael Dente, LSC's assistant chief technology officer, said. "The old system was in place for about 14 years, and that means 14 years of working out its problems," Dente said.

Dente said the new system significantly reduces costs and it allows more freedom of control. He didn't mention the cost of the new system but he said it was significantly cheaper than the \$50,000 access fees, and \$36,000 maintenance fees that the old Miltel system charged. The old system limited control to one person and that person had to physically be in touch with the system, Dente said. He said with the new system, control can be expended to more than one person, and it allows remote access. He said, "This summer I was changing access codes [for people at LSC] from Florida."

Thomas Perry, senior Business major and information desk worker, said some callers have complained about the voice mail system. He said, "Some callers say they have problems leaving voice mail. I

tell my boss and she reports it to IT [Information Technology], but it doesn't do any good." Donna Gile, admissions staff assistant, and Perry's boss, confirmed that there were some complaints that some voice mail boxes were inaccessible.

Dente said there were problems with some of the part-time faculty's voice mail boxes. Part of the problem is that about 90 percent of the part-time faculty do not use their voice mail and may not setup their boxes. He said the system currently directs callers to a general area where they're required to dial an extension to gain access to the voice mailboxes. Having a direct link to specific mailboxes instead of directing callers to the general area might fix the problem. Dente said, because the system has only been in place for about three months there were and are still problems that need to be worked out, but he said the switch over from the old Miltel system to the new system went well. "We're going through some growing pains, but the new system should make it [voice mail] a lot easier."

RPG at LSC

By Sarah Donaghy

This year there is a club on campus open to anyone who has an interest in it. The Role Playing Games Club, or RPG for short, got funding as an official school club this fall. Any student who would like to join is welcome. They meet every other Thursday at 6:20pm in Vail 421 and play everything from Dungeons and Dragons, Magic: the Gathering, and Vampires to board games or just about anything else members would like to organize.

Michael Dana, the club president, said, "We're all gamers and geeks of some type and not bias to anyone." Unlike the way many gamers felt in high school when playing games like Dungeons and Dragons with their friends there is no stereotype on or from the group. Members are allowed to be who they are without ridicule.

Joshua Gervais, a member of RPG since before it was sanctioned as an official school club, said that he finds it more exciting than online games. "RPGs are more community based; online you can't get the same sort of thing. There's more personal human interaction."

The club will be interacting with the rest of the school soon by holding a fundraiser. While the club isn't ready to disclose what sort of fundraiser they'll be doing Dana did say the money will be going toward buying more games and supplies for the club as well as trying to set up something for each club member to take with them as a useful souvenir, such as ten-sided dice or game figurines.

Dana is hoping to recruit more members into RPG. Being a fairly new club many people have not heard about it and those that have may not be able to come to the Thursday sessions. If this is the case you can email Michael Dana, Mattia Marrow, or Thomas Borck at their LSC email accounts. They'll put you on the roster list and tell you when the games are being organized and how to become more involved.

Invasive Trees Removed From Campus

By Matt Vercillo

The Norway maple is an invasive species of maple from Europe. The trees have been taking over the woods between the soccer field and dragon pond. The Norway Maple is undesirable because it crowds Sugar Maples and replaces them. Norway Maples are sold as ornamental trees in many nurseries.

In the fall of 2004, Dave Conant, Professor of Botany, was looking for an example of an invasive species to show to one of his classes. "All I could find were Norway Maples," Conant said. "There were very few Sugars"

Recently, the maintenance department took down all the large Norway Maples and Norway Maple saplings. Followed by the uprooting

of over 4500 seedlings by several science classes including: Environmental Science Seminar, Deep Impact, Geology II, and Plant Kingdom. Among the trees cut down, the largest was determined to be about 90 years old. This means that the tree must have been planted around 1915 when T.N. Vail owned the property. This tree is thought to be the source of the infestation.

There are a few different ways to determine if a maple is Norway or Sugar. Start by looking at the bark and buds. Norway Maples have bark with narrow ridges and a blunt, ovoid bud that is purple and green in color. The bark of a sugar maple has broader ridges or plates. Their buds are pointed, conical, and

brown or grey in color. Another way to differentiate the trees is to look at the leaves in the fall. The leaves of the Sugar Maple turn red and orange, usually falling to the ground in October. Norway Maples have leaves that turn yellow and stay on the tree until November.

"We couldn't get them all, there

is too many. Next fall we'll pull more up," Conant said. Since the problem is relatively small, the Norway maples should be removed in about five years time. That way, even the smallest seedlings will have grown enough to be recognized.



Norway Maples on display in theater lobby

Editorials...

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Have you ever heard someone say that, 'Each successive generation gets more stupid'? I've heard that expression countless times throughout my life. I've sat in a corner booth at the local restaurant, quietly sipping my cup of coffee, when some gum-smacking old-timer looked down at his newspaper, read about a young adult who was arrested for one thing or another, and presumed to tell the soap-opera deprived waitress that, 'They just don't make kids as good as they used to.' I listened to his grumbling and thought, 'what!?' They just don't "make" good kids anymore? Oh, I get it; he must have meant that when his "good" kids were "made," he and his wife copulated in the bedroom-behind closed doors-not like the "bad" kids of today, whose parents "made" them on a whim in the backseat of a Chevrolet. Perhaps he's right; 'Your honor, this young woman has just dismembered her father and stepmother because on the night she was created, her parents assumed the _____ position on a vinyl backseat while listening to the

rhythm of Aerosmith.' Sure. 'Wake up old man; kids aren't getting stupider, they're just afraid to fail.' Thus, instead of failing, they up and quit. From the moment we entered the school system many of us were made to think that failing was the ultimate sin. The next time you happen to be hanging around a young child and his parents while the kid is doing homework, pay attention to what words are actually transferred to the child. What's even better than the latter, is hanging around a school's organized sport. You may find that winning is the only option these eight-year-olds have. Pretending they're supermen and Wonder Women takes on a whole different meaning. Even eight-year-olds know that they are only human, that people make mistakes, fail; but what they don't know is that it is okay to fail. And if it's inevitable to fail, but not okay to do so, then why bother trying at all? So why are people surprised when the twelve-year-old down the street sells dope to their own ten-year-old? Hey, everyone knows that dope dealers are failures-it's no surprise-at least they'll know who they are,

what they'll always be (and from the beginning at that). Maybe you're agreeing that failure is terrible. Yeah, it does suck to fail-I'll agree to that-but in no way is it terrible. In fact, a failure is an experience and only adds to your story. Those who don't dare are further behind; think of it as a spin on Pascal's Wager. Having learnt to be afraid of failing, kids aren't just going to drop everything they've unconsciously learned, upon entering college. My restaurant visit ended with me accosting the old man about his views (the dialogue of which I'll intentionally leave out). And no, I have never been very diplomatic. I'm sure the president is being remarkably diplomatic with the handling of foreign assassinations, and that is not the kind of finesse I desire to exercise. So don't let the older generations label us with adjectives we don't deserve. We do not have to prove anything, but we also cannot passively take sh_t for the outcome of obediently accepting our elders' "guidance." So f_ck'em, take the risk and make it original.

The Many Hats I Wear

By Nicole Miner

It has taken me 21 years of living to realize that everyone wears a variety of "hats." I myself have over ten hats that I frequently, if not always wear. I wear the Editor of the Critic hat, a Peer Net and Orientation Leader hat, a big sister and daughter hat, and a "not single" hat. When people meet they automatically assign each other a "hat." We are judgmental and it is a hard habit to break.

My father will always see me wearing my daughter hat, while many people on campus will see me in my Peer Net or Editor hat. Based on what a person knows about another person they make judgments and assume certain things about a person.

It is hard to talk to people and wonder what hat they have me wearing. I feel as though I can never just be Nicole, hatless. I am fond of all the different hats I have accumulated throughout my life, and take pride in wearing all of them. I will always be a big sister, an over achiever, a daughter, but what will happen when one of my roles change? What will happen when I am no longer a Peer Net guide? How will my Peer Nets view me then? Will they search for a new hat to give me? How will I know what hat that is, or what I might say isn't altered in their perception due to the hat they have given me?

I worry that I put the wrong hat on other people at times. I am really close to several of my professors and I worry that I put the friend hat on them at a time when the student hat would be more appropriate.

My most difficult hat to wear is my Editor hat. People see me as the Editor of the Critic and assume that because I have this position that I do not make mistakes. It is a hard hat to wear because I am forced to make difficult ethical decisions everyday. I do not want to step on the toes of people I know, but I want to report the truth, plain and simple. I am afraid that I offend people, and it is not intentional.

People do not always take off certain hats when they should. I know I rarely take off any of my hats. I am never free to just be Nicole. I am always Nicole the Editor, or Nicole the Peer Net guide. I lose track of who I am; it is hard to juggle so many different hats at once.

Being considerate and open minded is the only way to work around this "hat dilemma." Having the ability to step outside of yourself and look back, study your actions and learn from them is the only way to grow more mature, more self-assured, and more comfortable in your own hats. Be mindful of when you place a hat on another person, remember that we are all people with feelings and we have all been wrongly judged in the past.

The Critic Wants You!

The Critic is looking for motivated students to fill the following positions.

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Entertainment Reporter
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If you are interested in working

for the critic please contact:
Nicole Miner, Editor at
Critic, LSC Box 7915 or Ext.
6215 or email
Nicole.Miner@lsc.vsc.edu

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Fun Page...

Horoscopes

By Madame Divine

Aries

Mar. 21 - April 20

Smile. Don't be so uptight. Breathing helps. Things will calm down shortly and then you can have fun. Keep your eye on the silver lining.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Take life by the horns and get ready for the ride of your life. How many times will you have this opportunity? Live for the moment.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

There is a pot of gold at the end of every rainbow. You just need to look harder. Your reward will surprise you.

Cancer June 22 - July 22

Put your nose to the grindstone. This is not the time to slack off. There will be plenty of time to play later.

Leo

July 23 - Aug. 22

Have fun but, don't waste precious time. You are on a deadline. Don't lose track of yourself or your priorities.

Virgo

Aug. 23 - Sept. 23

Read a book. Don't let your brain fill with cobwebs. It is harder to clean them up than to let them accumulate.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Don't let appearances fool you. It's what is on the inside that counts. Look deeper to discover the true nature of the person or situation. Follow your heart not your eyes.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Take the scenic route. You never know what you will find. It might change your lookout on life and we could all use a little of that.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Your life is before you. Make good decisions. Study for that test before going out. Being unprepared will leave you crying.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Go for the gold. Quality not quantity. People don't appreciate half-hearted efforts. You know what you can do, now prove it.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

There are many great things in store for you. Just a few more obstacles and you will be free. When the time comes, stretch your wings and fly.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - Mar. 20

You procrastinated too long. It's going to take a lot of effort to dig yourself out of this hole. Grab a shovel and start digging.

FIND THE CLASSES

A	K	L	A	S	F	O	I	N	W	Y	I	P	E
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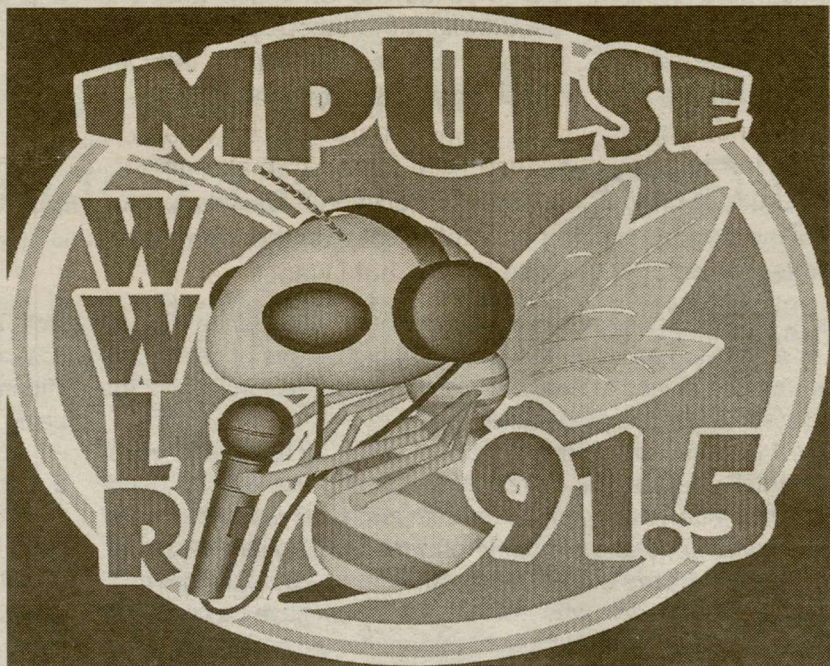
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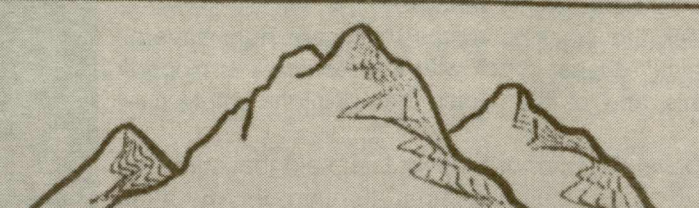
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RELAXTION
SPANISH
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YOGA

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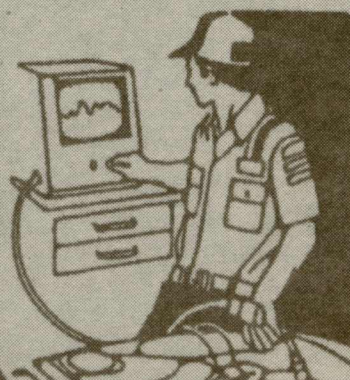




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Holiday Continued from page 2

couple of traditions that involve food and gifts with the family. Kelly Potter, English Education major, said "My family and I have a Christmas Eve buffet with lots of home made goodies, in which we listen to music and participate in opening one present. The tradition of leaving out cookies and milk for santa along with carrots or apples for the reindeer is something we continue with my nine year old sister."

Wiesia Milewski, general studies major, mentioned "My family celebrates Christmas by sharing holy bread on Christmas Eve. Each family member gets a piece of holy bread and then shares a piece with another family member. We exchange Christmas gifts on Christmas morning. Christmas is joyous at my house."

Steve Lewis, Elementary Education remembers "Usually any gifts the children get for the parents are opened on Christmas Eve. The kids open one or two presents also. On Christmas I wake everyone up kind of early and we open the rest of the gifts. Afterwards my sister and I usually get together with our friends and enjoy the rest of the day." "Opening one present on Christmas Eve." is Aurora Proctor's favorite tradition. Proctor is a Psychology major.

Alexander Strokanov spoke about a tradition that takes place on the night before Christmas where Russian girls would find or decide who their husband will be. He mentioned that there were also other traditions con-

nected with this one.

Audrey Perry, Early Childhood Education major said that on Christmas Day "My favorite Christmas tradition is waking up early in the morning, opening our stockings, getting breakfast and relaxing in our pajamas. Each person opens one gift at a time, dispersed by the giver of the gift. After all the gifts have been opened, we all get dressed and began cooking the holiday meal while all our family and friends slowly arrive"

After Christmas day has passed there is also New Years day. It is also a time of celebration and Malith Jerice, a Psychology major, said that his family celebrates the holiday by going to church and celebrating the new-year with family and friends. One way they celebrate is by dancing. Bruce Berryman, Meteorology, enjoys "Relaxing on New-Years day with family."

During the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah one of the most well known traditions is that of the menorah. The menorah is lit to memorialize a miracle that occurred in 165 B.C.E. In a temple after the Syrian army had been defeated there was only enough oil to light the menorah for one day. It burned for eight days. On the first night of Hanukkah one light is lit, each night a new light is lit until the eighth night when all are lit. The highest candle is called the Shamash and it is used to light the others. A blessing is recited before the lights are lit. <<http://www.historychannel.com>>

Deb Bailin, academic support said that her family lights the menorah at sundown on the first night and lights one up each night for eight days. Bailin remembers when she was younger receiving a gift after the prayer and menorah ceremony. She makes Potato Latkes as well. The traditions Bailin says "connect me to my grandparents and my family." Andrew Kach, Television Studies major said that "Spending time at home with my family" is what he enjoys."

Latkes are potato pancakes that are made from grated potatoes, mixed with eggs, onions, and flour, before being fried in vegetable oil. When they are done the texture is crispy on the outside and tender within. They're served hot and can be dipped in apple sauce or sour cream. <<http://www.historychannel.com>>

English professor, David Belisles's favorite tradition is making latkes which his whole family does together, as well as lighting the menorah. Kwanzaa means "first fruits of

"Kwanzaa is celebrated every year from December 26th through new-years day by African-Americans to commemorate their African heritage, Kwanzaa means "first fruits of harvest." according to the website <http://www.culinarychef.com>.

Kwanzaa is a way of life; not just a celebration. As a living social practice, it is a week of actual remembering, reassessing, recommitting, rewarding and rejoicing. The concept of Kwanzaa, is to help

Black Americans relate to the past in order to understand the present and deal with the future.

The colors of Kwanzaa are black, red and green; Black symbolizes the people, Red symbolizes their struggle and Green symbolizes the future and hope.

There is the mishumaa saba which are seven candles, that represent seven principles. There is one black candle, three red candles and three green candles. The black candle represents the first principle Umoja (unity) and is placed in the center of the kinara. The red candles represent the principles of Kujichagulia (self-determination), Ujamaa (cooperative economics) and Kuumba (creativity) and are placed to the left of the black candle. The green candles represent the principles of Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Nia (purpose) and Imani (faith) and are placed to the right of the black candle. The black candle is lit first on the first day of the celebration. The remaining candles are lit afterwards from left to right on the following days. This procedure is to indicate that the people come first, then the struggle and then the hope. This information was found on the website. <<http://melanet.com/kwanzaa/whatis.html>>

Enjoy the Holidays and have fun with all of the special and meaningful traditions.

Smoking Gazebo Causes Controversy Among Students

By Mary Wheeler

Where a cluster of trees once grew outside the Rogers Residence Hall will soon appear a smoking gazebo. The gazebo, which is one of seven proposed shelters to be placed at heavily trafficked locations throughout the campus, has raised questions among students at LSC.

Several residents of Rogers voiced their concerns associated with the gazebo, including increased noise levels, the cutting of trees, and the second hand-smoke that will enter their windows during the warmer weather. Tyson Foster and Chris Nachtwey, both sophomores and residents on first floor Rogers created a petition against the gazebo and have collected 40 signatures as of November 15.

"My main problem is that the people who made this decision gave us no opportunity to voice our opinions," Foster said. "I thought this shelter was originally going to be placed in the middle of Stonehenge, now we're moving the noise from the entire courtyard right outside my window."

"We should bring back the smoking rooms that were here several years ago," Nachtwey said. "At least check with the residents of Rogers who will be affected by this, and let them voice their opinions before cutting down trees."

However, Jonathan Davis, Director of Student Life, said that students have had the chance to voice their concerns through the Student Government Association which deals with student issues. Concerns were expressed from students and faculty that smokers were smoking too close to the buildings and residence halls. These gazebos would help amend the amount of smoke people would have to walk through and encourage smokers to remain 25 feet from the buildings.

"The first gazebo has been ordered and will be on a trial basis," Davis said. "It will be placed on a bed of rocks as oppose to cement, so it can be moved if needed."

According to Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administration, the idea of creating these smoking gazebos was discussed at two campus-wide committees last year; Campus Planning and Health and Safety. The Student Government also plays a role in these committees as student senators have a voice as to what happens. The intent was to create attractive buildings for people to congregate in while giving smokers a place to escape the harsh weather conditions.

"The smoking shelters are intended to provide a reasonable place for smokers to go," Hamilton said. "The goal is to have people comply with the smoking guidelines and respect those people's rights for choosing not to smoke."

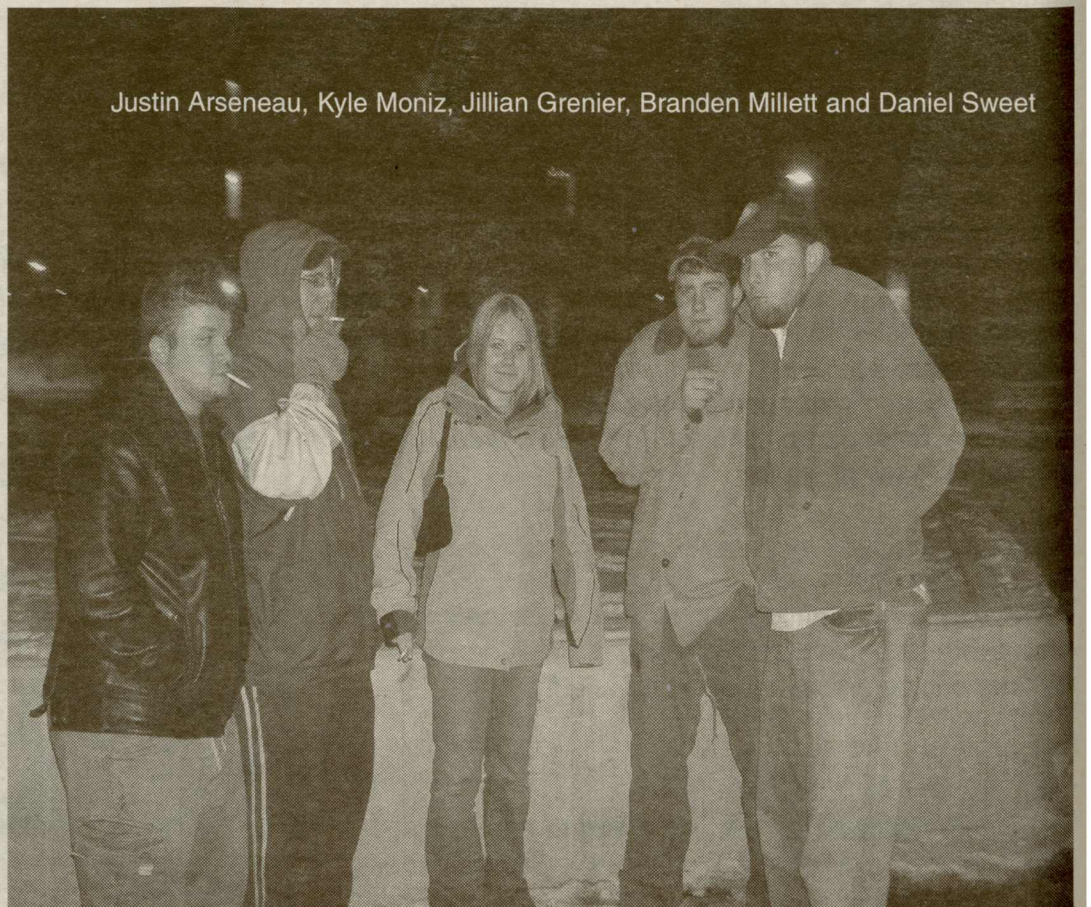
The location for the Rogers gazebo (which resides 27 feet from the building) was chosen so that people from Stonehenge, Stevens Dining

Hall, and the Harvey Academic Center would have access to it. The total unit is costing \$4100 which will include a roof, electricity, and receptacles. Hamilton feels littering and vandalism will be issues, however, he feels most students' have been using the current receptacles throughout campus.

"I think it's a good idea to have these shelters because smokers should have a place to go, however the placement's wrong," Patrick McLaughlin, a junior, said. "There wasn't much interaction with the students regarding this issue and it should have been brought up at the community meeting."

"The shelters will be warm, have wind protection and the smell will be further away from the Residence Halls," Emily West, a junior said. "I don't want this to become a smoke-free campus in five years."

Justin Arseneau, Kyle Moniz, Jillian Grenier, Branden Millett and Daniel Sweet



After Tough Start, Hornets Look to Skate Toward Playoffs

By Jake Mardin

The Hornet's hockey club team is off to a slow start so far, but is looking ahead to the future. After winning their first game over the U.S. Coast Guard Academy by the score of 5-3 on Nov. 5, the Hornets have dropped their last three games. The team lost 8-3 to Connecticut College, and followed that up with another loss to Connecticut, this time in a 10-9 overtime goal fest. The following day, they lost another close game, this time to Springfield College by the score of 6-5.

Although they are only 1-3, coach and Director of Student Life Jonathan Davis has high hopes for his young team, which features ten freshmen and only one junior and one senior, team captain Brett Caron. "We want to get more wins and we have the ability to do so," Davis said.

To improve the team, Davis said, they need to improve their defense by

playing more physical and improving their zone coverage. Also, the team lacks an abundance of large players, the biggest being the 6'3" defense man Jared Kennett and the also 6'3" forward Jeff Giroux. Davis pointed out that assistant coach Werner Wintels has been a great addition to the team and has been a tremendous help to the defensive players, who rely mainly on speed and agility to make plays. Davis went on to say that offensively, the team is playing great and there haven't been any problems in that area of the team.

The team is hoping they don't have a repeat of last year's team, which fell apart during the second semester due to graduation losses and transfers and lost four straight games on the way to a 5-10 record and missing out on the playoffs.

Davis has a number of leaders who he hopes will right the ship,

including goalies J. Tucker Labare, Keeleigh Lewis, and Jacob Kennett. "Our goaltending is great," Davis said. Also helping out the team defensively is Michael St. Laurent, who Davis calls "a very good defense man who carries the puck well." Giroux, the team's leading scorer last year, will once again be called upon to lead the team offensively, as well as team captain Brett Caron, whose play on the ice sets an example to the rest of his team.

Davis is looking forward to the rest of the season, which he hopes includes a playoff run. "I expect us to win a lot of games. I expect us to make the playoffs," Davis said. He also went on to praise his team's work effort, saying "They work hard and they play hard." This is to be expected from a team that practices as much as three times a week and does it at night.

Hockey Roster

C. Grossman, Fr, defense
T. Lahue, Fr, Forward
J. T. Labare, Fr, Goalie
J. Redinger, Fr, Forward
M. St. Laurent, So, Forward
M. Clegg, Fr, Forward
A. Bond, Fr, Defense
K. Lewis, So, Goalie
K. Moniz, Fr, Defense
A. Cavanagh, Fr, Forward
S. Shannon, Fr, Forward
D. Vaillancourt, Fr, Forward
J. Giroux, So, Forward
T. Brooks, Jr, Forward
J. Theberge, So, Forward
B. Caron, Sr, Forward
M. Hacking, So, Defense
J. Kennett, So, Defense
J. Kennett, So, Goalie
J. Tuccillo, Fr, Manager
A. Houle, Fr, Manager
K. Wilmarth, So, Club President
J. Davis, Head Coach, 6th year
W. Wintels, Assistant Coach, 2nd year

Hornet's Start Season Off 6-1

By Jake Mardin

The men's basketball team defeated Daniel Webster College Tuesday night to improve their record to 6-1.

Senior Christopher Dorsey scored a team high 20 points in the win, while junior Brent Fowler and sophomores Tanner Pryce and Brad Durr also reached double-digits in scoring. Coach Eric Berry said the team was able to execute on offense and defense. "We ran our offensive sets well," Berry said. He was also pleased with his team forcing three shot clock violations against Daniel Webster.

Berry still sees room for improvement, however. "We have the potential to play 25 percent better," Berry said. He also wants the bench players to play better, as well as trying to get more inside shots.

Berry is pleased with the team's record at this

point in the season, which kicked off with a 77-72 victory over Vermont Technical College. Brad Durr and Christopher Dorsey led the team in scoring with 28 and 22 points, respectively.

The Hornet's then defeated Paul Smiths College 104-88 in LSC's home opener. Tanner Pryce was the leading scorer with 31 points, while Brad Durr narrowly missed a double-double by scoring 15 points and grabbing 9 rebounds.

LSC then traveled to Farmington, Maine on Nov. 19 to play in the Hight Chevrolet Tournament, where they beat Wentworth Institute of Technology 91-78 but lost to University of Maine-Farmington 91-78 in the finals. Dorsey and Pryce were named to the All-Tournament Team.

The team returned home on Nov. 30, where they beat Saint Joseph's College 76-71 in a game that was decided in overtime. Chris

Dorsey finished the game with 21 points, 10 assists, and 7 rebounds as the Hornet's improved their record to 4-1.

The Hornet's then returned to Maine to face Central Maine Community College. Dorsey played another solid all around game, chipping in 24 points and adding 6 rebounds and 7 assists. Tanner Pryce also played well by scoring 21 points, 6 rebounds, and 5 steals as LSC won the game 81-58. The team would follow that up with their win over Daniel Webster College Tuesday night.

This Sunday, the Hornet's will travel to Manchester, NH to play Hesser College at 3 p.m. Berry expects his team to emerge victorious as long as they stick to the game plan and play solid defense.

After playing Hesser College, the men will have a month off before returning to the court on Jan. 11 to face Castleton State College.

Lady Hornet's Record to 7-0

By Jake Mardin

The women's basketball team is off to a good start to the season, improving their record to 7-0 after defeating Daniel Webster College in Nashua, NH on Tuesday night by the final score of 62-59.

The Hornet's were led by sophomore Whitney Hoyt, who finished the game with 18 points and 11 rebounds. The win came just two days after the Hornet's beat Daniel Webster in the finals of the Lady Hornet's Holiday Tournament 60-55. Hoyt and senior Alicia Shedd were named to the All-Tournament Team.

The team has played good so far this season, but coach Dave Mellor believes the team can perform better. "We need to play more consistently during games," Mellor said. He said the team will play well for some stretches and play poorly for others. Mellor also stressed the need for the team to improve its defensive rebounding and limit the opponent's chances for offensive rebounds. Offensively, Mellor would like to see better decision making and more low-post scoring.

Although there is work to be done,

Mellor did praise his team's ability to force turnovers and difficult shots on the opponent. He is also pleased with his team's ability to put points on the board. Shedd is the leading scorer so far this season with 16.7 points per game. Freshman Jen White is leading the team in rebounding, averaging seven per game.

This season has seen the Hornet's win by large and small amounts. The team opened up the season at home against Paul Smiths College on Nov. 12 with an 87-50 victory. White led the team in scoring with 15 points while four players each had seven rebounds.

The Hornet's followed up a blowout with a close win over Bard College by the score of 57-54. The Hornet's blew a 15 point lead in the second half but were saved by a late three-pointer by Nicole Arel, the team's second leading scorer this season, and free throws by Alicia Shedd and freshman Elizabeth Hall. The Hornets finished up the tournament the following day with a 73-54 defeat of Johnson State College.

The next game for the Hornets

was played on Nov. 30 against Saint Joseph's College, which the Hornet's won in overtime 80-76 to improve their record to 4-0. Shedd and Arel scored a combined 57 points in the team's victory. Mellor praised the performance of his senior players in the game, adding "We played well when we needed to."

The team then played host to the Lady Hornet's Holiday Tournament on Dec 3 and 4. The Hornet's defeated Rivier College in the first game with Shedd once again leading the way in scoring, while Jen White was the

leading rebounder with seven. The Hornet's would go on to defeat Daniel Webster College in the final game of the tournament and defeat them again two days later.

The Hornet's are preparing to face Hesser College in Manchester, NH on Dec. 11. The team will then take time off and return to the court on Jan. 5 in the Warner Southern Tournament in Lake Wells, Florida. Mellor is looking forward to the remainder of the season. "I expect us to have a very strong season," Mellor said.



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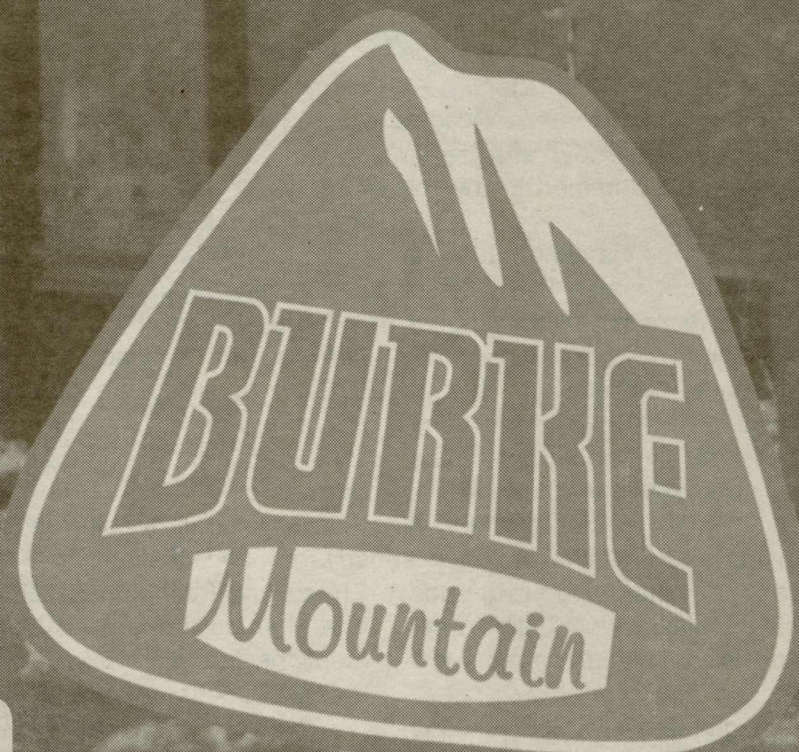
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Students Are Boiling Over The Heating Conditions

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Problems with the temperature controls are being felt in parts of the Stonehenge residence halls. The new thermostats that have been installed in Arnold, Bailey, Poland, and Rogers have not been providing much control over room temperature, James Osler, a Rogers resident said.

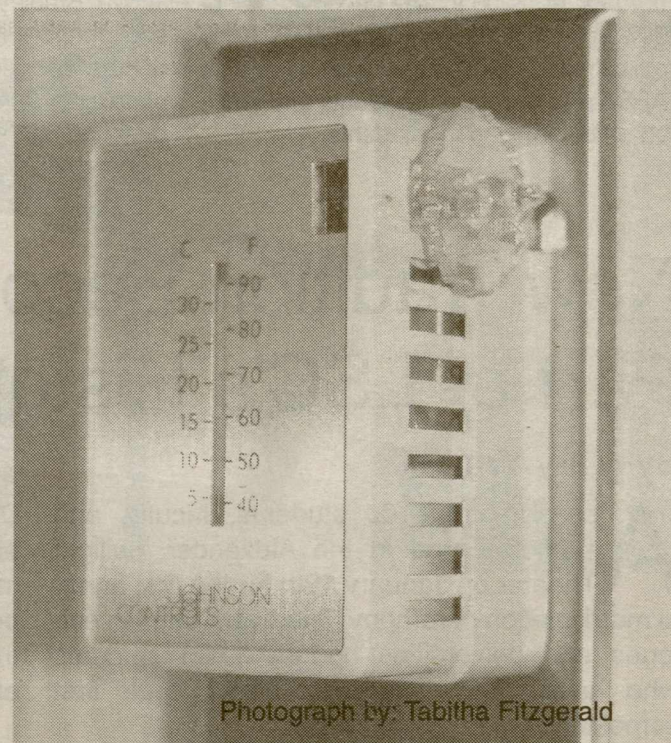
For Mattia Marrow, a Poland resident, it takes an unusual amount of time for a room to attain the desired temperature. When I first turned it, the room was at 72. I cranked it up to 82 and it took three or four days for it to reach 80," Marrow said.

Jonathan Davis, Director of Student Life said that the thermostats in Arnold and Bailey were completed at the end of spring 2005, while the majority of the work done in Poland and Rogers occurred over the winter break. Retrofitting the old buildings with new hard-

ware is difficult and is being done building by building when money is available and should be completed within two years, Davis said.

Heat loss can be caused by various things including: blocking vents with furniture and leaving doors and windows open which can greatly affect the overall temperature of a room or entire suite according to Davis. Davis hasn't received any complaints regarding this matter as it not being wide spread enough to require his attention.

Students experiencing problems should report them to their RAs, who will then send in work orders to LSC maintenance. Even with temperature problems, students are pleased with the effort to give them control over their personal environment. "I think its good that they're trying to get a controlled temperature," Osler said.



Photograph by: Tabitha Fitzgerald

Students Participate in Bush Poll

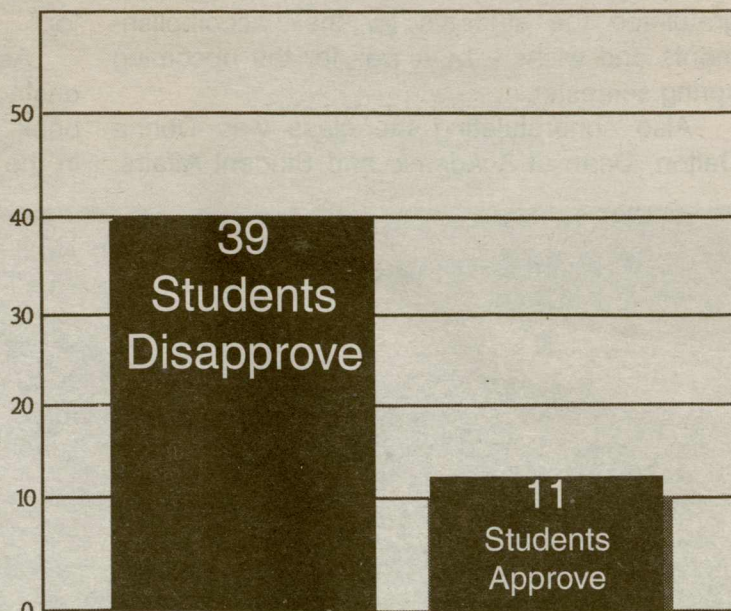
By Amanda Gigliotti

In a 2005 poll on student views towards George W. Bush results showed that thirteen out of the fifty LSC students surveyed voted for Bush in the 2004 presidential elections. Students were then asked if they would re-vote for the president considering how he is currently running the country. Forty-two students said they would not vote for him again.

The student poll results showed that thirty-nine students disapproved of the way Bush is currently running the country, while eleven approved. The CNN poll reports that "sixty percent of the 1,006 adult Americans interviewed by telephone...said they disapprove of how Bush is handling his job as president." Matt Durso, a Liberal Studies major, said

"[Bush] is doing an absolute horrible job." However, Matt Kelly, a physical education major, thinks that the president "is doing the best he can."

Overall, there were conflicting student views about the President. Mike Lichniak, a meteorology major, said that "Bush spends too much money on the war and doesn't look at home-front problems like healthcare or education." Jennifer Torracco strongly favors what the President has done for the country after September 11th. The television major feels that "...no one wanted to stick by what they said in the beginning and that Bush shouldn't be convicted because they changed their minds and he followed through."



Professors' Suggestions to Improve Student's Grades

By Kelly Colby

With the new semester starting, many students will be looking for ways to improve their grades. The beginning of a new semester can, and should be, seen as an opportunity to turn over a new academic leaf. Students often have no clear idea what things they should change in order to improve their performance at LSC. It seems reasonable that the best people to ask are the professors themselves. When asked, "If you could tell students to do one thing that would improve their grades, what would that be?" a variety of suggestions were offered.

Chandler Gilman, assistant professor of English, said "Come to class prepared, having read and finished assignments." Students learn more when they have taken the time to prepare themselves for learning. A big part of this preparation coming into the classroom familiar with the material which will be discussed.

An even shorter suggestion is "Come to class." which David Mellor, professor of mathematics and computer science said. Mellor said that it is not surprising that there seems to be a correlation between being in class and doing well in it. Frequently, students will

ask him if anything important was covered on the day that they missed. Every day of instruction is important. Students should not expect otherwise.

Robert Dixon, associate professor of political science said that his students should watch the news. This is, of course, in addition to doing the work and coming to class. This suggestion would be a good one for all majors. A familiarity with current events can be very helpful in making in class connections with material. Making those connections is an important factor in the learning process.

Daisy McCoy, associate professor of mathematics, said that students should "keep up." Students need to do the work required in their class every day, even if that work is not yet due. Staying ahead of assignments removes a great deal of the stress that college students face.

Possibly the most basic of suggestions was offered by John Mull, associate professor of biology. He said, "work harder." It is a simple truth that doing well in college requires commitment. Those students who are committed will apply

See Grades on page 7

It's FASFA Time Again

By Tabitha Fitzgerald

It's that time again. The beginning of the spring semester marks the beginning of financial aid applications. Jennifer Aubin, the financial aid specialist at LSC, said "January and February are the months when students should begin to resubmit their financial aid applications."

The major application that should be filled out is the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA. Aubin said that the FAFSA application is the only application that is required at LSC. This particular application needs to be submitted by February 14, 2006 for the upcoming 2006-2007 school year. "It all starts with this application," Aubin said. After filling out the FAFSA application, other grants and loans can be determined for students.

FAFSA applications can be filed two different ways. One way is going to the financial aid office on campus and picking up a paper application. The other way is to complete the online application that can be found at www.FAFSA.ed.gov. All the information and criteria for all grants, loans and scholarships can be found on the portal under current students and financial aid which can be found under the offices and services tab, Aubin said.

Jody Card, Financial Aid Officer, Terry VanZile, Assistant Director of Financial Aid, Tanya Bradley, Director of Financial Aid and Jennifer Aubin are available to students who need help or have questions pertaining to financial aid. There offices can be found on the third floor of Vail.

"Plan for Fiscal Responsibility" to Change Lending Structure for Lyndon State Students

By Kelly Colby

Students at LSC are likely to be affected by a recent proposal made by The Education and the Workforce Committee as an attempt to decrease budget deficits. The proposal titled, the "Plan for Fiscal Responsibility," is designed to find \$18.1 billion net savings in the federal budget. The proposal focuses on student aid and pension programs primarily. While the plan does not propose any new direct costs, it does effect changes in the lending structure that could lead to a greater burden for college students.

According to the plan's summary there are several provisions that are intended to provide \$14 -15 billion in savings from higher education funding including:

- * Puts a complete and permanent end to practices that have allowed some lenders to collect a minimum 9.5 percent rate of return on some student loans.
- * Increases risk sharing by reducing insurance rates provided to lenders in cases of loan default and increasing lender paid fees.
- * Reduces collection costs to encourage greater efficiency in default collections.
- * Further reduces subsidies for lenders that primarily provide consolidation loans.
- * Gives consolidation loan borrowers the choice between a variable and fixed interest rate.

See Loan page 6

New Tradition Becomes a Part of LSC's History

By Mary Wheeler

Approximately 100 students, faculty, and staff gathered in the Alexander Twilight Theater on January 19th for the first annual matriculation ceremony. The event used in colleges and universities honors those students who have successfully completed their first semester at the collegiate level.

The full-time faculty members of LSC were lead in by the St. Andrews Pipe Band of Vermont to witness the event. The class of 2009 was welcomed by LSC President, Carol Moore who congratulated the students for their accomplishments and wished them well for the upcoming spring semester.

Also congratulating the class was Donna Dalton, Dean of Academic and Student Affairs.

Dalton explained the history of matriculation and how many schools combine convocation and matriculation into one event. However, LSC will be making them into two separate events due to the few occasions throughout the year that an entire class can come together.

"You are here in an environment that invites you to explore new ideas, consider new ways of thinking, to question, debate, ponder, and examine your assumptions," Dalton said. "LSC can offer as much or as little as you chose to reach for."

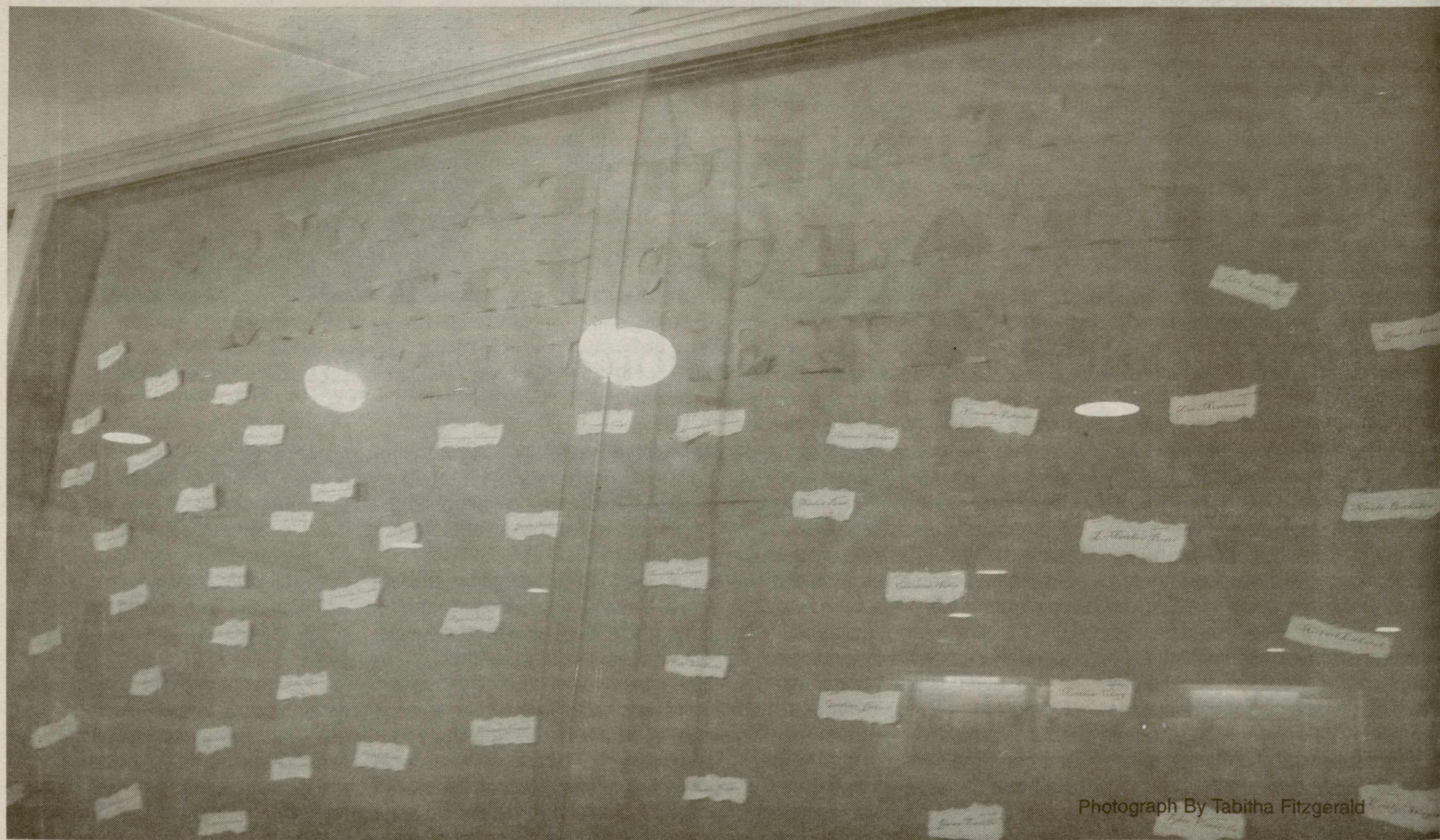
As their names were called, students went onstage and signed the leather bound registry book. This book will be displayed in a glass case in the theater lobby and will be a reference for

future generations of students to see who attended LSC.

After all had signed the book, Leo Sevigny, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, spoke of the LSC promise and the importance of making a difference.

"You are needed to teach values to the new generations of students," Sevigny said. "It's time to take action, be intuitive in your endeavors, and have a sense of pride in your accomplishments."

The event concluded with several closing remarks from Dalton followed by the St. Andrews Pipe Band of Vermont leading out the full-time faculty members. Attendees were then invited to an ice cream social sponsored by Aramark food services held in the theater lobby.



Photograph By Tabitha Fitzgerald

Think Finals are Scary, Just Wait

By Nicole Miner

I am so sick of people asking me what it is I am going to do with my life. I have no idea what I want to do with my life. I am graduating in less than four months and my life has no direction. All around me I see people going about their daily lives as though nothing is wrong. Yet, in my head there is a jumble of questions and fears and uncertainties. What if I fail the ultimate test, life?

I have always tried to believe in myself, I figured that if I didn't believe in myself then no one else would either. I push myself to be the very best I can be, and still I feel that I fall short of everyone's expectations. I am not going to be a doctor or a lawyer, or even a well known journalist. Right now I am concentrating on finding a job that will pay the rent, buy some food, and hopefully (fingers crossed) give me benefits. The world is full of experienced individuals that could probably do everything better than I could, so why would anyone want to hire me? I have to search within myself and

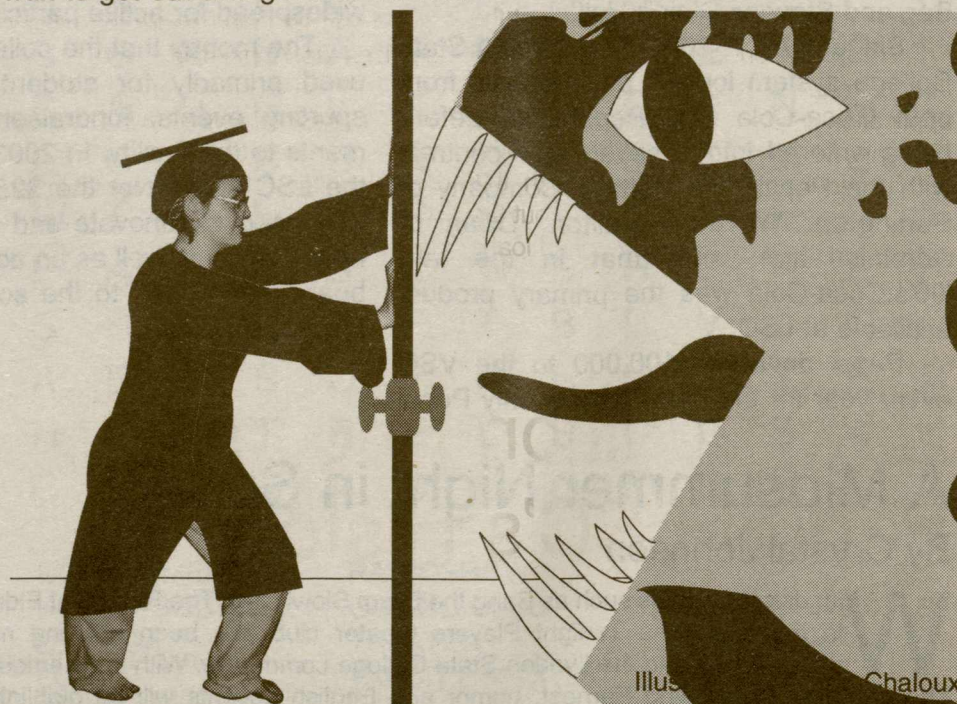
find what makes me special and what sets me apart from everyone else.

Everyone has strengths, talents, and a certain 'wow' that they could bring into a company or establishment. It is a matter of finding your angle, letting go of all your hang ups and seeing yourself for the amazing, talented individual that you are. I have had this reoccurring dream that my name is called and I am walking across the stage to where President Moore is waiting to give me my diploma. As soon as she hands my diploma to me the world opens up, baring sharp ugly teeth, and swallows me whole.

I realize that not everyone handles graduation in the same way. I doubt that a single person graduating has not gotten butterflies in their stomach or a sudden blow of realization that renders them speechless or horrified. I have no regrets in regards to how I spent me time at LSC. I traveled abroad, I took on leadership roles, I met many fabu-

lous people and I learned how to manage my time and take on responsibility in a confident manner. I have had a wonderful time at LSC, perhaps some of my apprehension comes from the disappointment that is almost over. Part of me cannot wait to get out and get into the real

world, living on my own, and having a job I love. The other part of me is mourning the end of this stage in my life. At 21 I do not feel completely ready to take the world by storm. I have to keep reminding myself, baby steps.



Not Just Another Evening Out

By Nicole Miner

The fine and performing arts and live theater are an intricate part of the LSC experience. Every year LSC brings in a wide variety of performers to entertain the students, faculty and staff. These performances are an opportunity to experience different cultures and different ways of life. It is a real treasure that LSC is so passionate about bringing in these performers and making them readily available to the entire LSC community.

Pat Webster, Library Cataloger, said "I was a small-town Vermont kid when I first came to Lyndon, and I had no idea what live theater was like. I got a great education at LSC about what to do when attending a performance and it has served me well in my travels to theater productions from NYC to Great Britain." Webster has been in theater for 30 years and is currently producing Love Letters, starring Dick and Terry Portner, on February 10th and 11th in the Alexander Twilight Theater. "This is a major labor of love because the Portners have been such a vital force here at Lyndon. When the theater major was active, Dick directed astounding shows," Webster said.

Live theater is still alive and going strong here, but there are notable differences compared to the days of the theater major. "Back then an evening's show was a real event. People

would dress for the occasion because it wasn't considered a run-of-the-mill, everyday occurrence," Webster said. When attending a live performance at LSC today one can expect to hear cell phones ringing and people having side conversations. Not only that but people getting up and walking out in the middle of a performance is not only disruptive, but extremely rude. Imagine giving a class presentation that took all semester to prepare, and in the middle of it students are answering their ringing cell phones, getting up and walking out of the class room, and talking amongst themselves. No one would appreciate that behavior. "The new complication is the array of electronic devices that are everywhere. It's hard on everyone on stage and off when phones are ringing, etc. and besides it's nice to give it all a rest for the duration of a show. You can always check in during intermission if something pressing is happening," Webster said.

The purpose of attending a show is to sit back and enjoy it. It may be a class assignment to attend, but do not judge the performance before it is viewed. An open mind and heart are vital to the enjoyment of a live performance. "Get there early so you have time to hit the rest room and get a drink of water. Then you'll be

fully able to sit, relax, and enjoy," Webster said. If it is a class assignment to attend then full attention will make writing a response or horizon event paper much easier. A better sense of what the performance was about will be obtained and will create a wider spectrum of what can be brought up in the assignments. "Also, there may be shows that really don't appeal to you. If so, waiting for the intermission is kinder than leaving suddenly," Webster said. With the amount of live performances available to the LSC community it is easy enough to find one that is appealing to attend in order to fulfill a class assignment. If an assignment is not the motivation for attending, then being there is a choice of the attendee and being respectful is the responsibility of all in attendance.

"This is the time in your life to try a little bit of everything, and live theater can provide experiences you carry with you for the rest of your life," Webster said. Everyone chooses what to make of their stay at LSC. If not attending live performances is your choice, it is only you that will suffer from it. College is all about experiences, make the most out of an LSC education, broaden your horizons and try something new. It could be the best thing you ever did for yourself.

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Letters

The Critic

LSC Box 7951

Lyndonville, VT 05851

Coca-Cola Goes Flat as Pepsi Pops into LSC

By Valerie Pierce

Students looking for Coca-Cola products may be disappointed to find that only Pepsi products are available on the LSC campus. According to a 2001 Vermont State College News Release, these include: Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Mountain Dew, Aquafina, and Sobe that are located in soda machines, the Hornets Nest Snack Bar, and Stevens Dining Hall.

Since June 1, 2001 the Vermont State College system looked at proposals from both Coca-Cola and Pepsi-Cola before being entered into a seven-year contract with the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company of Burlington. Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administration, said that in the late '90's, Coca-Cola was the primary product available at LSC.

Pepsi donates \$100,000 to the VSC every year for the right to have only Pepsi

products sold on the Vermont State College campuses. This amount is split evenly (\$25,000 per school) between Lyndon State College, Johnson State College, Castleton State College and Vermont Technical College. However, The Community College of Vermont is not included due to their campuses being too widespread for active participation.

The money that the colleges receive is used primarily for student scholarships, sporting events, fundraisers or improvements to the facility. In 2003, according to the LSC News Net the \$25,000 donation was used to renovate and update the fitness center as well as an additional scoreboard was added to the soccer field with the Pepsi Logo.

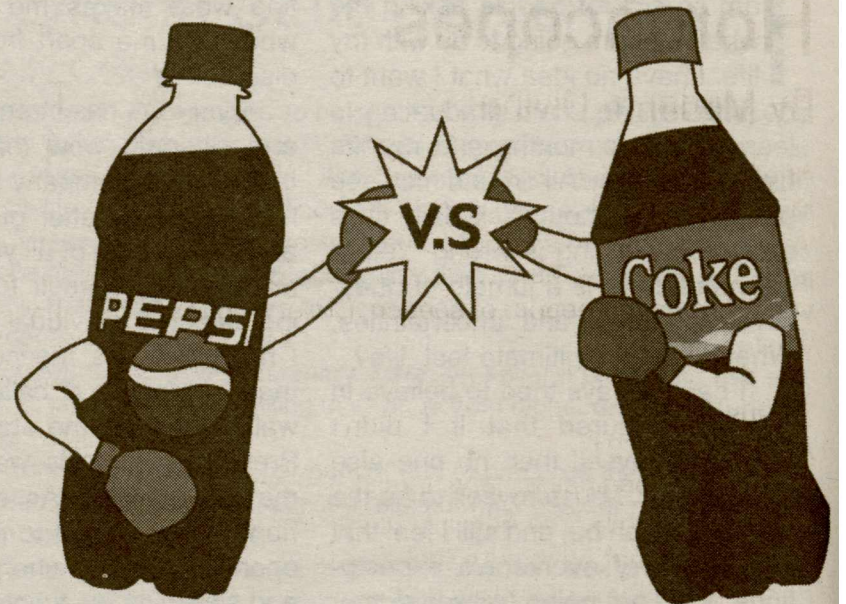


Illustration By: Katie Barrett

A Midsummer Night in Spring

By Crystal Johnson

With dramatic plays such as *Bang the Drum Slowly* and *The Rimers of Eldritch* in the past, The Twilight Players theater club has been bringing more comedic plays to the Lyndon State College community. With last semesters *The Importance of Being Earnest*, humor and English accents will be highlighted again as the group brings William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to a reality this spring.

The play introduces two couples in love with the wrong partners, who are finally brought together with their true loves by a mischievous and loyal fairy. Queens, magical flowers, and changes of hearts can all be seen in this play.

Taking on the responsibility of Director is John Walker, LSC theater professor. The auditions were held on Monday January 23, Tuesday January 24, and Wednesday January 25 from 7:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. in the Alexander Twilight Theater. The auditions were open to the public as well as to students, and while no preparation or acting experience was required, people were recommended to brush up on their English accents. Walker will then select a small handful of actors to recreate those classic characters with rehearsals being on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6:30-9:00 p.m.

Performances are scheduled for Friday and Saturday, April 28th and 29th at 8 pm, and Sunday April 30th at 2 pm. There will also be a special Matinee for over 400 students Friday the 28th at 11 am.

Policy 311

By Sara Morehouse

Sexual harassment is an issue that students and employees at Lyndon State College should be aware of, including whom to contact if they feel it has happened to them. According to the Crime Report from Public Safety, no reports of sexual harassment occurred in 2004.

Policy 311 is the Vermont State College policy for sexual harassment. The definition of sexual harassment, according to the Vermont State Colleges Manual of Policy and Procedures is "unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature." The policy states that "sexual harassment is illegal and that the VSC will not tolerate sexual harassment of its students and employees, nor will the VSC tolerate unprofessional conduct which leads to sexual harassment."

The policy outlines the consequences for those involved in sexual harassment. "Any person who violates this policy shall be subject to prompt and firm disciplinary actions as determined by the president or the Chancellor. Such discipline may range from reprimand to dismissal or expulsion."

An investigation will result from a formal complaint, as stated in the Manual of Policy and Procedures. "A student or employee who believes that this policy has been violated may file a formal written complaint directly to his/her immediate supervisor, dean of students or equivalent, academic dean, college president, or the policy 311 coordinator designated by the president, or with the VSC Vice President for Employee and Community Relations at the Office of the Chancellor."

All of the Vermont State Colleges have a group of professors, faculty or "contacts" that anyone can go to if they feel they are being sexually harassed. At Lyndon State College, these people are: Debra Hale, Registrar (Policy 311 coordinator); Jonathan Davis, Director of Residential Life; Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administration; John Kascenska, Assistant Academic Dean; Rhonda Korol, Associate Professor of Psychology; Elaine Razzano, Associate Professor of English; Leo Sevigny, Associate Dean of Student Affairs; Julie Theoret, Asst. Professor of Math and Computer Science; and Lori Werdenischlag, Professor of Psychology.

See Policy 311 page 10

Not Just another Professor

By Emily Hale

A passion for traveling has taken Elaine Razzano, Lyndon State College Associate Professor of English and Co-Chair of the English Department from all corners of the world including: Ireland, Burma, Vietnam and Asia.

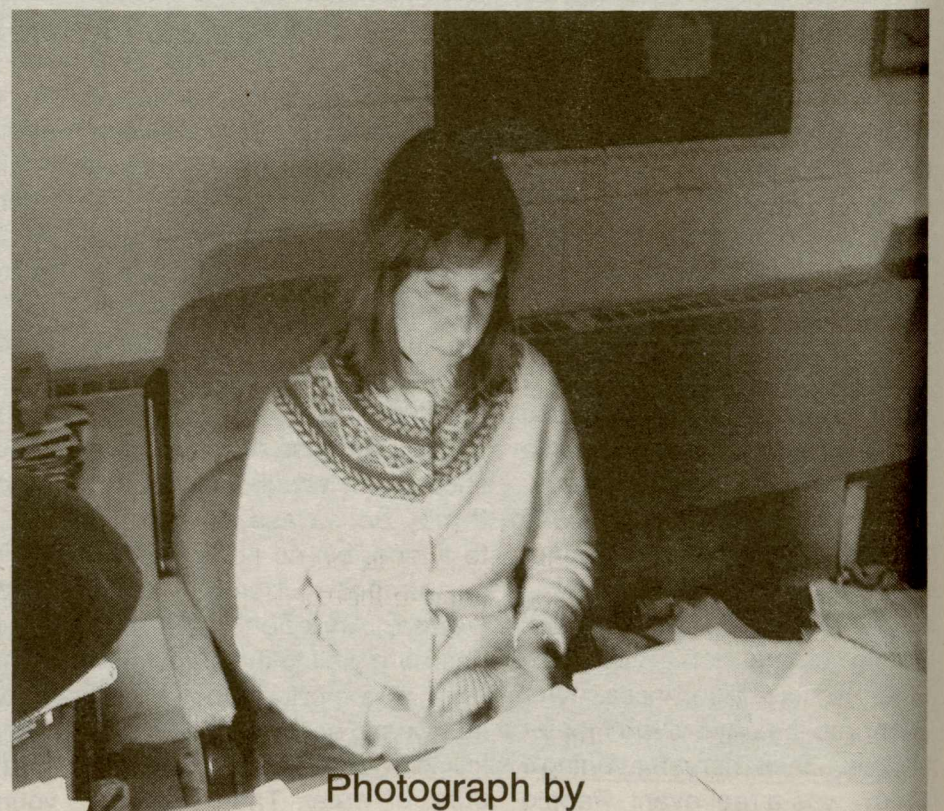
Razzano's love for travel came from her father whose navy profession allowed her to spend her youth traveling and seeing the world. After graduating from college, she and several of her friends spent time in Asia and China recruiting teachers for schools over there.

Using her travels as a resource, Razzano finds enjoyment incorporating her experiences into her classes which include *Representing the World* and *World Literature*. As a teaching tool, Razzano brings back artifacts and souvenirs from the country she has visited which helps "bring literature to life," Razzano said. Her experiences

"peak their [the students] interest ... [and] take literature out of the theoretical and bring it down to the practical."

Razzano said that traveling to different countries has helped her learn about cultural differences and the experience of being foreign in a new environment. She also said that her experiences make her more patient and help her learn to communicate. "It's made me more sensitive of other people's differences," Razzano said.

All these experiences Razzano shares with her students or anyone else who is curious about her travels. Some of these include her once being held up by automatic weaponry in Burma because she was taking pictures on the street, staying at youth hostiles in Ireland, and traveling to the Kuchi tunnels where Vietnamese hid from Americans during the Vietnam War.



Photograph by

Fun Page...

Horoscopes

By Madame Divine

Aries
Mar. 21 - April 20
Write a letter to the editor. You have strong opinions. Let them be heard. People have died so you could have freedom of speech. Do let it go to waste.

Taurus
April 21 - May 21
It is a new beginning, leap forward and grasp every opportunity. You only live once, why waste time? Have that adventure that has been hibernating in the back of your mind.

Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Winter getting you down? Grab a good book and escape your worries for a while. In the pages of a book is the best place to hide.

Cancer June 22 - July 22
It is ok to be the center of attention sometimes, but don't take it too far. No one likes a show off. Lighten up a little and your greatness will still shine through.

Leo
July 23 - Aug. 22
Feeling lucky lately? Don't let it go to your head. All good things come to an end. Have a back up plan.

Virgo
Aug. 23 - Sept. 23
Be aware of Murphy's Law. Everything that can go wrong, will go wrong. Back up all your work and cover all your bases.

Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Give back to the community. A big heart goes a long way, everyone loves a volunteer. Call your local animal shelters or nursing homes, and see what you can do to help.

Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Love is coming your way. It will appear where you least expect it, so be aware. Carry a calculator.

Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Do not hide in the corner. Show your talents. Get involved with a cub or organization. Be social and make new friends.

Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Go the extra mile. Give 200 % effort. Make sure you let your love know you still care.

Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Life is a maze. You may hit alot of dead ends, but eventually you will conquer them. Hang in there.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - Mar. 20
Eveyone is getting sick. Drink a lot of fluids and take some vitamin C. You are too busy to be sick. Hand sanitizer is great, go buy some.

LSC ACTIVITIES!

T	L	H	B	J	A	Q	O	I	T	U	E	L	C	G	S	V
H	S	O	W	E	D	L	U	B	C	D	Y	X	L	O	N	A
E	R	N	B	S	R	M	T	Y	U	S	N	O	C	V	W	R
A	Q	O	U	R	A	D	I	O	S	H	O	W	S	E	P	S
T	M	R	P	C	G	K	N	A	R	E	J	T	E	R	O	I
E	A	S	X	S	A	U	G	L	X	D	R	G	V	N	M	T
R	J	O	N	L	U	B	C	U	N	O	T	L	S	M	U	Y
S	R	C	L	W	T	Q	L	R	P	S	S	P	O	E	R	S
U	H	I	D	F	A	R	U	S	I	W	S	H	E	N	E	P
P	O	E	K	S	R	K	B	S	F	T	B	I	V	T	Q	O
C	F	T	S	A	D	U	S	U	Y	H	I	L	E	Y	E	R
W	A	Y	V	H	L	A	T	R	E	L	S	C	G	S	A	T
C	E	B	M	C	E	P	O	A	D	U	Q	F	O	P	I	S

AMSNWA	GOVERNMENT	RADIOSHOW
ASSIST	HONOR SOCIETY	OUTING CLUB
CAB	LSC GSA	THEATER
CLUB SPORTS	LCF	VARSITY SPORTS
CRITIC	PETE	

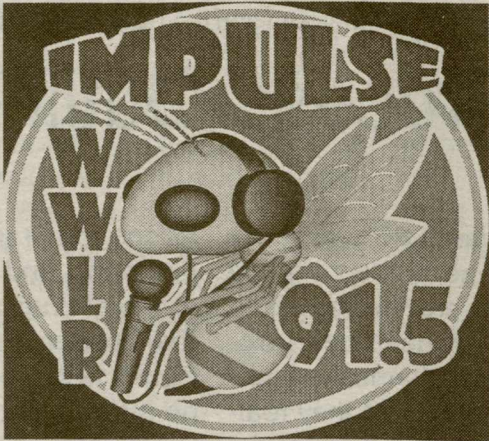
The words go vertical, horizontal,diagonally, backwards vertical and backwards horizontal.

The Critic is looking for motivated students to fill the following positions.

- Cartoonist
- Games Creator
- Entertainment Reporter
- Photographers
- Writers
 - * News
 - * Features
 - *Sports

If you are interested in working for the critic please contact:

Nicole Miner, Editor at
Critic, LSC Box 7915 or Ext. 6215 or email
Nicole.Miner@lsc.vsc.edu



Vagina Monologues
By Eve Ensler

COMING SOON TO LSC!

Loan Continued from page 2...

- * Maintains flexibility for borrowers through fiscally sound interest rate structure.
- * Increases student aid program accountability by making the 458 administrative account discretionary, similar to all other administrative accounts within the Department of Education.
- * Reduces loan fees for students and increases loan limits.

U.S. House Education & the Workforce Committee Chairman, John Boehner (R-OH) says that, "These proposals will help put federal student loan programs and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation on a more stable financial foundation so that they can serve students, workers and retirees well into the future." The press release by Boehner makes it sound as though these changes will decrease costs to college students, but according to the University of Chicago student newspaper, the Chicago Maroon, Democrats and education watchdog groups fear that these changes will result in thousands of dollars of additional costs for borrowing students. According to the Maroon, Chris L. Lindstrom, the director of the Higher Education Project for the State Public Interest Research Groups said, "This is the plan to balance the budget on the backs of college students."

The long-term effects of these proposed changes to the Higher Education Act (HEA) are hard to pre-

dict. Bruce Post, the Director of Federal Affairs for the Vermont Student Assistance Corp. says, "Slogans are easy to make, but they don't necessarily represent the whole thing." He points out that such changes are a factor every year, and that even what may appear to be minor changes in the HEA can reflect additional costs to borrowing students. An example of this would be the ongoing debate between the House and the Senate over whether loan rates should be variable or fixed. The House wants to retain the system of variable interest rates, but The Senate wants to change to a fixed rate. According to Post, either option could be better or worse for college students depending on market conditions. Should the government adopt a fixed rate system and interest rates decrease, college students would likely suffer; if interest rates increased, it would be more costly to the government. Similar problems may arise when trying to cap administrative costs for servicing student loans. This could lead to changes in lenders willing to take on the loans or increases in initial fees on such loans which could also be costly to students.

The proposals will be implemented over the next five years to reduce waste and inefficiency in the higher education and pension programs. The Committee intends that the reforms will "strengthen student aid programs and expand student benefits," according to the press release.

Student Voices Heard the Stevens Dining Hall

By Joshua James Gervais

In response to a survey conducted last semester, changes are in the works at the Stevens Dining Hall to better accommodate student needs.

These additions include: a hotdog machine, grill cheese press, a stir fry station, and additional choices of soups. Between \$3-\$5,000 has been spent on these changes and an equivalent amount will be spent this coming semester, Tadd Stone, Director of Aramark Food Services said. Stone added that a new employee was hired to circulate through the dining hall and replace empty items with fresh ones.

An all day breakfast bar and redesigned desert station are also in the works. Stone said that they were putting more focus on the customer than what has been done in the past. Another new feature is an on-campus delivery service that brings food from the Hornets Nest snack bar to student's rooms. The service operates from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., but purchases must be for more than \$5. According to Stone they have already delivered \$150 worth of food.

Another survey will be conducted in February. Until then, comments can be placed in the dining hall's comment box or board.



Photograph by

Life of a Custodian

By Valerie Pierce

Jackie Goodwin is a custodian who primarily works in the Grey House and Arnold residence halls. She has tasks that she works on during the days that sometimes begin before seven a.m. Every day duties include: cleaning, sweeping, mopping and taking the trash out of the suite kitchens. She also cleans the bathrooms once a day by sweeping and mopping, spraying

and disinfecting. The stairs are either swept or mopped every day, depending on the weather. The floors in the living areas are usually vacuumed once a week.

One of the concerns that Goodwin has is with people leaving their personal items in the bathrooms and showers. It is requested that people "Please take them back to your rooms." Goodwin added that

when she is cleaning she doesn't want to disturb other people's belongings but often has to move them.

The other residence halls on campus have dedicated workers taking care of them in the same way. The staff includes: Karen Fournier, Bailey and Poland (502,601,602), Geraldine Nelson, Creve and Poland (401,402,501), Gloria

Moyse, Whitelaw and the lounge and laundry room of Creve, Janet Goodwin, Rogers and Wheelock (110,120), Shirley John is in charge of the rest of Wheelock while Terry Dwyer works in the Rita Bole Complex.

Next time you see any of the maintenance or custodial staff, let them know you appreciate all their hard work and dedication.

Judiciary Process Outlined in LSC Student Handbook

By Nicholas Plante

Taking the time to review LSC's judiciary process may help some students avoid stressful situations and provide insight to what their rights and responsibilities are. "Especially when a student finds themselves getting a notice about a judicial summons they really need to do their homework," Jonathan Davis, LSC's chief judicial officer and director of residential life said. "The students need to make sure they can do everything possible to follow procedures and know what their rights are."

According to the Code of Student Ethics found within LSC's Student Handbook, "All students are expected to conduct themselves as responsible members of the college community and to respect the rights of their fellow citizens on and off campus." Davis said, "Most of the violations are committed by students who reside here on campus." The handbook identifies violations as actions that threaten an individual's health or safety. The handbook provides examples of vio-

lations that range from failure to comply with directions, and underage drinking to possession of illegal drugs. The handbook is very clear on the violations, Davis said. "In our handbook it clearly talks about holding students accountable no matter what they do, even if it's off campus," Davis said.

Once a violation is identified a charge is made in writing and submitted to the Public Safety Office. The Dean of Academic and Student Affairs or designee will conduct an investigation. If the charges are found to have merit a hearing is held and the hearing officer or panel issues a judgment and sanctions. "Every year we have hundreds of different types of situations that are handled differently. We try to be as consistent as possible in the outcome," Davis said.

"As long as they [the accused] follow through with the hearing process and actually show up for a hearing or schedule a hearing then they have the right to appeal any sanction that they get,"

Davis said.

According to the handbook a "Request for Appeal," form must be completed and returned to the Student Affairs Office within five business days of the hearing. If a student waves his/her right to a hearing or fails to appear for a hearing he/she cannot appeal.

The Judicial Appeals Committee is made up of faculty members, students, and staff members according to the handbook. "We essentially look at the sanctions and whether or not they are consistent with what we've seen over the years and whether or not they seem reasonable," Linda Metzke, judicial appeals committee member and professor of education said. "But mostly we just look to make sure none of the procedures have been violated." The Appeal Board averages three cases per semester, and they can either uphold the sanctions, recommend different sanctions, or recommend a new hearing, Metzke said.

Men Sweep, Women Split in Basketball Double-Header

By Jake Mardin

The men's and women's basketball teams were both on their home court over the weekend as they played their first conference games of the season.

The Lady Hornets took the floor first on Saturday against the Fort Kent Bengals, where they lost 62-52. "We didn't play our best game," Coach David Mellor said. Mellor attributed the loss to poor shooting overall from his team. LSC held their own for the first half, but a scoring streak by the Bengals put Fort Kent ahead for good. Bright spots for the Lady Hornets included double-doubles from senior Alicia Shedd and sophomore Whitney Hoyt.



Alicia Shedd heads towards the basket but is doubled teamed on the way.

Photograph by Dave Giambarresi

The men's team took the floor next and defeated Fort Kent 77-60. The Hornets got off to a slow start against the Bengals. "We didn't play well in the first half," Coach Eric Berry said. The team switched defenses at the end of the first half and played better on their way to the win. Sophomore Alex Ibey led the team in scoring with 18 points, while Chris Dorsey chipped in 17 points with 9 assists.

Sunday's games began with the Lady Hornets rebounding from their loss on Saturday to get the win over the Presque-Isle Owls 57-51. LSC shot the ball much better than in their previous game, most notably from the free-throw line and three-point line. Freshman Jackie Wetzel shot a perfect 3-3 from the three-point line, while Whitney Hoyt went 2-2. Wetzel's three-pointers came when the Owls were ahead by one point, keeping LSC in the game. We were able to stand our ground," said Mellor. The Lady Hornet's also made several clutch free-throws, shooting 13-14 in the second half.

Free-throw shooting has been a strong part of the Lady Hornet's game, with Hoyt being the number three free-throw shooter in the conference. She is shooting 74.3 percent from the line. Hoyt also leads the conference in field goal percentage with 52.4 percent.

Mellor still believes that the team has room to improve. "Turnovers are our main concern," Mellor said. "We also need to tighten up our defense and play more consistently."

The final game of the weekend saw the men's team soundly defeat the Owls 94-65. Sophomores Brad Durr and Tanner Pryce led the Hornet's in scoring with 15 points apiece. The Hornet's also controlled the boards, with Alex Ibey grabbing 12 rebounds and freshman Kali Stoddard-Imari contributing with 10.

"[The game] was over pretty early," Berry said.

Berry had plenty of good things to say about his players. "Alex [Ibey] rebounded really well on defense. Brad [Durr] was strong on offense. Chris Dorsey played good all-around basketball," Berry said. Berry also stressed that the team can still play better. "We need more fluency on offense," Berry said. Berry also wants his team to make more plays instead of waiting for one to develop.

Both teams will see action this weekend when they travel to Boston to play Fisher College on Saturday. They will then play against Mitchell College on Sunday in New London, CT.



Chris Dorsey goes airborne to score some points.

Photograph by Dave Giambarresi

The Portrayal of Magic in Fantasy Literature

By Jim Bound

Have you seen some of the recent movies with magic and fantasy such as C.S. Lewis' "Chronicles of Narnia," or J.R.R. Tolkien's, "Lord of the Rings" series, or J.K. Rowling "Harry Potter" series? How would you compare them? Does the use of some kinds of "magic" in movies bother you?

At 7 P.M. on Wednesday, February 1 in the Burke Mountain Room, Professor Matt Dickerson will be showing film clips and discussing these movies. There will be a time for questions; so feel free to come with any questions you may have about these authors, their books, and the movies.

The title of Wednesday evening's presentation is "From Hogwarts to Narnia to Middle-earth:

The Portrayal of Magic in Fantasy Literature (Should we be afraid?)

Dickerson explains that: "The use of magic is nearly universal to the literary genre of fantasy, both ancient and modern. We might almost say that the related idea of 'enchantment' is the definition of what makes fantasy literature. It is also what makes many people fearful of the impact of books like those of J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series. Part of the problem is that the modern English word 'magic' is used to mean several different things-which is why philologist J.R.R. Tolkien distinguished between several different types of magic."

Consequently, in Dickerson's presentation and discussion, he will explore the portrayal of magic, especially as in Rowling's Harry

Potter books, and in the C.S. Lewis "Chronicles of Narnia" series, as well as in the Tolkien series on "The Lord of the Rings."

Dickerson will particularly be asking: what is the source of magic, and what is its use?

Matthew Dickerson is a professor at Middlebury College, and he is the author of several books, including Following Gandalf: Epic Battles and Moral Victory in The Lord of the Rings (Brazos Press); The Finnsburg Encounter (Crossway

Books); and the forthcoming From Homer to Harry Potter: A Handbook on Myth and Fantasy (Brazos Press, coming April 2006). Over the past 18 years he has taught numerous courses on C.S. Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien, and Heroic Fantasy. He is also a con-

tributor to the forthcoming Encyclopedia of J.R.R. Tolkien Studies.

This event is free and sponsored by Lyndon Christian Fellowship (LCF). Regular meetings for LCF are on Wednesdays at 6:30 P.M. in LAC 343, across from the entrance to the library. LSC students are also invited to a free overnight Winter Fun and Coffee-House time with students from other campuses across Vermont on February 17-18 (Friday evening and Saturday). This special event will be held in Northfield, Vermont. For more information contact Sarah.Winans@LSC.VSC.EDU or Jim Bound (hopeful@vtlink.net).

Grades Continued from page 1...

themselves and do better. No number of suggestions will make a difference unless the student is willing to do the work.

Once students have done all of the above things, there are skills that can be applied as well. Debra Bailin, the Director of Student Academic Development, said that students should try to take time after every class to write down the thrust of what was covered. This is a study tactic that allows students to

better retain what they learn. Writing is an excellent way to facilitate learning, and summarizing information is easiest when it is still fresh in your mind. The Academic Development Center is an excellent place for students to get tips that will help them with their studies.

One of the things that students should do that they often do not is to seek help. Elaine Razzano, associate professor of English, said that

students should not be afraid to "ask for help" if they need it. Many times students are concerned over being embarrassed in front of their professors or peers when they don't understand material, and as a result they fail to seek help when they need it, said Razzano. Asking questions is part of the learning process; students should be prepared to do it inside and outside of the classroom.

Most of these suggestions are

not tricks that can allow students to do better on tests or to absorb knowledge better when studying. They are simple, common sense, ideas that all students should apply to their college studies. They are basic skill, not study skills. There are literally hundreds of books available that cover study skills, and they are very good resources, but those books will be of little help if students do not have the basics down.

Price and participation may vary.
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The Critic

Serving the student voice at Lyndon State College

Lyndonville, VT

February 09, 2006 Volume 52, Number 8

FREE!

4 Percent Tuition Increase is Needed to Stay in Black

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

The President and Deans of LSC gathered in the Burke Mountain room to deliver the State of the College Address for the 2006 spring semester. LSC President, Carol Moore, started the address by giving a brief summary of the agenda and the names of some new additions to the college's faculty and staff. Among the new arrivals is Tamara Thomas in admissions and Rebecca McGill who will be working with recruitment of out of state students.

Assistant Dean for Admissions, Michelle McCaffrey, then gave a run down of the state of admissions for this spring. There have been 121 deposits (new students) this spring, a figure slightly higher than in years past, McCaffrey said. The number of fall applications is ten percent behind. To boost the number of applications for fall, 2006 the application fee for applying online is being waved for the month of February, McCaffrey said.

McCaffrey also went over a list of recommendations given by consultants. Enhancing use of data in recruitment strategies, focusing on the inquiry stage of the application process, customized brochures, enhancing the message of affordability and increasing collaboration between the athletics department and admissions were the suggestion made by the consultants, McCaffrey said.

The Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, Donna Dalton, gave an update on LSC student retention rates. The retention rate is defined nationally as the percentage of full time first year students who return for their second year. The retention rate is not affected

by transfer or re-admitted students, Dalton said.

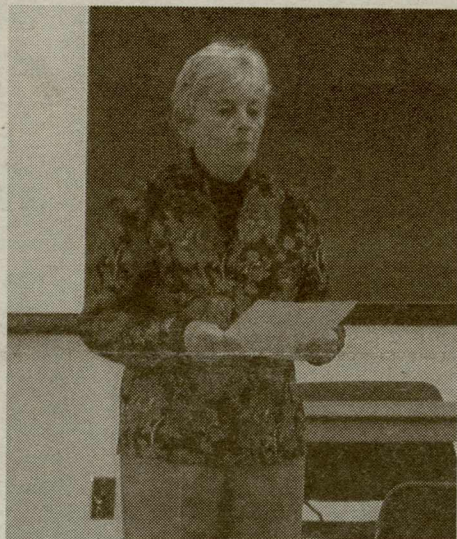
Dalton then showed a chart showing retention rates based on the selectivity of schools and their admissions policies. Highly selective schools, such as Harvard, usually have a 91 percent retention rate according to Dalton's chart. The less selective a school, the

lower the retention rate, Dalton said. LSC is considered to have a liberal selection policy and according to the chart should have a 65 percent retention rate. As of fall 2004, LSC's retention rate was 61.7 percent, where it was at 60.2 percent in fall 2003, and 59 percent in fall 2002.

Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administration, then spoke on the college's budget. Currently LSC's budget is in better condition that had been expected in years past Hamilton said. However, the Vermont State College system has decided to change how it gives out appropriations. Instead of basing it on enrollment, the appropriations will now be distrib-

uted evenly amongst the five colleges; meaning that a four percent increase in tuition will be required for the college to break even in coming years. LSC will either have to increase tuition rates or increase enrollment Hamilton said.

Moore closed the event by going over a fund raising plan she detailed earlier last fall. The goal is to raise \$2-10 million by the year 2011. Also, out of all the initiatives brought up at the fall retreat about 60 percent are either in progress or complete, Moore said.



President Moore delivering the state of the college address.

Graduation Requires More Than Just Credits

By Mary Wheeler

Students planning on graduating from Lyndon State College have more than just 122 credits to complete before receiving their diploma.

Students are required to complete a request to graduate form, that includes their name, address, majors, and minors they feel they've earned. A degree audit which presents a student's plan of study also needs to be included in the application signed by the student advisor, Deb Hale, Registrar, said. This information is recommended to be completed and processed a year prior to a student's intended graduation date. However the actual deadlines for these materials is April for December graduates and November for May graduates. According to LSC undergraduate/graduate catalog, "failure to take the required steps for review and application for degree may delay graduation even if all other graduation requirements have been completed."

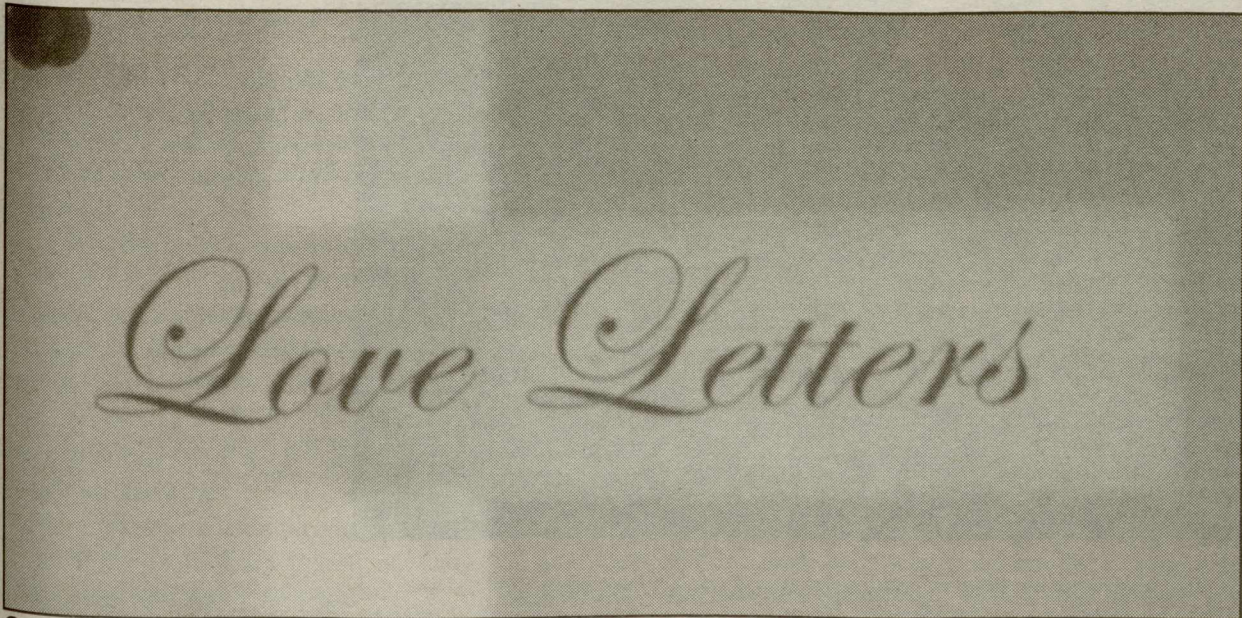
In the past, the request to graduate form also included cap and gown measurements, but starting this year students provide this information to the Balfour company representatives who come to campus. Graduation standards also include students taking their last 30 credits at LSC and a \$65 fee which covers the costs of cap and gown and the ceremony, Hale said.

"I try to identify those students who are within one year of graduating. It's so much easier for students to let us know a year in advance when they're graduating," Hale said.

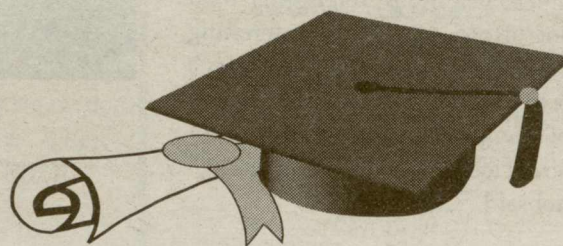
A problem that occurs is that many times students think they're getting three more credits by repeating a course that they got a D in when actually they're not. Then when they go into their last semester and realize that they're three credits short, they can't figure out where those three credits went. Hale suggests that students be aware of the courses they're taking and how soon they're planning on graduating.

Other forms include information sheets that graduates should give to Evelyn Franz in the Registrar's office, confirming their attendance at commencement. Students also have the opportunity to nominate a speaker as well as purchase a tape of the event for \$19.95 which will be broadcast by Kingdom Access Television.

This year's commencement will be held on Sunday, May 14 starting at 11:00 a.m. Photographs of the event will be taken by a nationally recognized free-lance photography company and will mail proofs of final prints to every graduate's home at no cost.



See Love Letters Story on Page 6.



Scholarship Keeps Students in Mind and out of Debt

By Crystal Johnson

Spring time offers many new beginnings: the weather slowly begins to get better, the snow melts, and the Vermont State Colleges are visited by the Chancellor.

On Monday, February 06, Chancellor Bob Clark spoke with students about his plans to adopt a new scholarship to aid Vermont students. This proposed scholarship, titled the Vermont Promise Scholarship, will help pay for 25 to 50 percent of a student's tuition per year; so long as they are born in Vermont, attend any college in Vermont and plan to stay in Vermont for at least three years after graduation.

The goal for this scholarship is to keep Vermonters in Vermont, since Vermont currently leads the nation in the highest amount of high school students attending a college outside of Vermont. The scholarship hopes to aid those who would be attending college outside Ver-

mont, or not at all. This is expected to be available for students next year.

For Vermont students, this will cut back on the amount of loans needed per year. This scholarship will work with VSAC and will not affect the amount of aid given to any student, since this will be "the last dollar in," Chancellor Clark said. Those who support this new scholarship are hopeful that it will not only help Vermont students continue their education but it is also hoped that the scholarship will help Vermont's job market. In the long run, Clark hopes that this scholarship will also help students pay back their other loans, "It will mean you'll have to borrow less money...parents don't have to pay as much," Clark said. Just in case you decide to leave Vermont after graduation, the scholarship has already thought of you. After graduation, students who are under the aid of the Vermont Promise Scholarship

are expected to only pay back half of the scholarship with no interest added.

This scholarship is also expected to raise matriculation in any VSC program, since the amount of high school graduates will decrease 18 percent in the next decade, affecting the amount of students enrolling in college. LSC has only a 10 percent increase in matriculation, which combines with other colleges in Vermont to form a 26 percent increase.

Currently, Vermont is receiving aid from an unlikely source. The tobacco company is paying Vermont a total amount of \$25 million, five million of it going towards smoking cessation programs, and approximately 20 million for Medicaid and other health programs throughout Vermont. This money, which has come from a settlement, will not be affected by the Promise Scholarship. Any students interested in seeing this scholarship happen are asked to contact the

legislature and give their input on the matter. The more voices that are heard, the more likely it is that this scholarship will be ready and available for those who intend on starting a VSC program in 2007.



Chancellor Bob Clark speaking about adopting a new scholarship to aid Vermont Students.

Freshmen Get Hands on Experience With Government

By Nicole Miner

Students enrolled in INT 1020 took a trip to the Vermont State House and had an opportunity to sit in with the House Representatives to discuss the issues currently going on in the government. The students learned the ins and outs of the Vermont Legislature and took a tour of the State House. "It was really interesting to see the legislature in progress because my dad used to be a house representative," Katie Bristol, freshman, said.

The students were sent off to different committee rooms depending on their majors. Health Services, Government Operations and Appropriations were some of the most frequently visited committees. "I was impressed by how everyone said don't knock on doors, just walk in," Vicki Litzinger, INT1020 instructor and black board coordinator, said. All of the students were informed to not knock on the doors to the committee rooms. It was more distracting than them just walking in. "I was surprised that they [the legislature] were so accessible. You could pass them in the grocery store, they were just everyday people," Jenny Rossi, freshman, said. The students were encouraged to speak to the house representatives and voice their opinions on what was being discussed. "I was so wowed by seeing a citizen legislature in practice," Litzinger said.

After visiting the State House the students went either to Ben and Jerry's or Cabot Creamery, depending on which bus they were riding. Each group learned about the operations of the businesses and got to sample free treats. "It was the most boring place on earth. I am not that interested in cheese. Sitting with the house members was more interesting than Cabot," Rossi said. "It was interesting to learn how much Ben and Jerry's gives to charity. They give money to a lot of non-profit organizations. And I got to eat ice cream, which was good," Bristol said.



From left to right: Joslyn Sykes, Katie Bristol, Nate Healy and Leo Seigny are paying close attention to the information being given to them in the House Chambers.



From left to right:
Jennifer Lane
An Pham
Andrea Boyce,
Wendy Mitcell
Aidan Howe
Alexandra Botelho
Jenny Rossi
Jonathan Brinkhoff
Solonia Garrity

Front row:
Dan Labarron,
Benjamin Banks
Aaron Hogan

The students photographed here have decided to take a break while on tour of the House Chambers.

.....Editorials.....

I Need to Make How Much?

By Nicole Miner

Everyone loves money, spends money and needs money. It was not until recently that I really started to think about money, and the salary I will be making when I graduate. I work about 10 hours in the library each week. The \$100 or so I make every two weeks buys my gas, some food for my room, and a little money to spend as I see fit. I always scrounge every month to get money for my car insurance. About twice a year I have to break down and ask my dad to pay my insurance.

Whenever I really need something I have to call my dad and ask him for money. He is always helping me out, giving me money for food, paying for my cell phone, stocking me up with food and laundry detergent whenever I go home. To me \$20,000 sounds like a lot of money. I could live very comfortably on that salary. Then I think about all the things I will need to pay for when I am not at school. Apart from paying off my college loans, I will need to pay my rent, car insurance, cell phone bills, all of my food, gas, heat, electric, snow removal, Internet, cable. \$20,000 a year does not sound like that much anymore. On top of that, someday I will have kids, a mortgage, life insurance. How in the world can I adjust from living on \$100 every two weeks with minor financial responsibilities to having a bigger salary with more responsibilities?

I don't think this is something most college students think about. Their room and board go on to their tuition, or they share a scummy apartment with five other people. I don't want to live in a run down place when I graduate. I want to live in a nice apartment and start saving up for a house. If I start out on a salary of \$20,000 it will be years before I can even save up enough for a down payment for a house.

If lucky, rent will only be about \$400 a month. That would be \$4,800 a year. Then you have your utilities, cable and internet. After paying car insurance and cell phone bills, about \$12,000 remains. That is for food, gas, clothes, cleaning supplies, and everything else that is needed. It may seem like a lot, but when it comes right down to it, living off of \$12,000 a year is not that easy. There is no money left over for vacations or special events.

I wish I had planned a little better during my time in college, saved up a little nest egg for myself. I don't know how I will afford my first and last months rent once May rolls around, or how I will catch up and be on top of my finances. I am glad I had this epiphany so that now I am more prepared for financial difficulties that may arise once I leave school. Paying back school loans is even more daunting than I first imagined them to be.

Friendships in Adulthood

By Ann-Marie Reed

Lately I have been thinking about what friendships really mean in adulthood. In childhood and adolescence friendship seemed so simple, friends were people you liked being with and who liked being with you. Somewhere along the way though more dimensions were added. Now friendships are complex relationships in which place is not so clearly known.

College is the time where you come to define how you want to live your life. A time where you learn what expectations you hold for the world and yourself, and what expectations are had for you by others. The people who have accompanied you throughout school (or in the working world) are no longer at the same place in life as you. New people from different backgrounds, are introduced into your life. People whose views on the world are so different, that at times it seems impossible to relate to them.

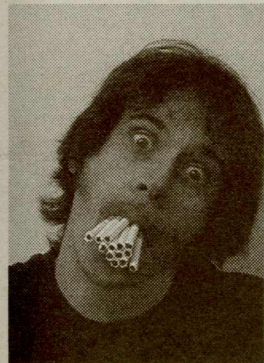
In the earlier years of life we are told how to be good friends. We are told to "play nice and take turns." We are also told to always remember the golden rule, "Treat others the way that you want to be treated." But as the days go by and the stress builds up, we seem to judge each other harder and start treating others how we feel their actions deserve to be treated and not as we ourselves would like to be treated. We decide each action must in some way be a reflection of what kind of a person the one doing the action is, with little consideration given to the possibility of miscommunication or the quality of the day, or week the person acting has been having.

I think we all need to take a huge step back and look at how we are judging each other and how others are judging us and decide if how we are living as individuals and as a community is really how we should be living. Are we really being good friends? Do we really have good friends? How can we remember those simple childhood rules we lived by or were told we should live by so long ago? Because perhaps this new dimension that college adds is simply a deviation to the linear process we, as a society seems to think we need to make and a return to the basic truths that make up how to be a decent, thoughtful person.

Ding Dongs & Goofballs

By Dillon Eliassen

The Dangers of Reality Literature



I believe that in the United States of America, we live in a culture that's obsessed with money, sex and violence. When someone produces a popular work that tries to teach a moral lesson, it seems there's a silver lining to the grey times we live in, but what happens when that moral lesson is taught immorally, through lies and hype?

James Frey is the author of *A Million Little Pieces*, which has sold over 3.5 million copies thanks to Oprah's Book Club. His memoir is meant to teach a lesson about the horrors of drug and alcohol abuse by chronicling his own addiction, crimes and eventual salvation. It's too bad Frey is a big, fat, stinking liar. (Frey is pronounced "fry". I thought it was pronounced "fray" until Oprah's second show with him. It was just another lie perpetrated by Frey until Oprah shined her light of truth on him. THANK YOU, Oprah.)

Frey has a new book out now, "My Friend Leonard", and, according to Newsweek, has signed a contract with Penguin's Riverhead for two more books. James Frey is now a household name, and like Howard Stern, what he does may be crap, but people will want to know what he's going to do next. This equals dollar signs in the eyes of Frey's publishers. Frey may be a liar, but now he's a rich liar.

In American culture, if something becomes commercially successful it spawns a creative surge in a genre by other artists who have similar experiences and influences. In other words, "if he can do it, so can I."

After Frey's lies were exposed, Oprah, feeling victimized, confronted him on her show. But, come on, it's Oprah! Calling her a victim is like calling an elephant with a mosquito bite a victim. Oprah's not of this world, she is a being subsisting on gold dust and voluntary spinal fluid transfusions from soccer moms; the fabrications of a mere mortal do not bother Oprah.

The real victim is the reading public. Not as much from the lies found in "A Million Little Pieces", but because of the embellished memoirs that will be published in the years to come. Due to the monetary success of Frey's book, the market has opened up for other authors to confess their sins and reveal their redemptions to the book buying public. Now there will be tons of these memoirs, written by copycat authors, willing to throw in some BS to juice up their stories a little, whether or not there's a lesson to learn.

Frey is like an unethical scientist who abuses the control of his experiment to attain the results he wants. No, wait, better yet, he's like a reality show producer. Believe it or not, reality shows are meant to convey a message to its audience; "Survivor" shows how teammates form alliances to reach a goal, "The Real World" lets us know what happens when seven strangers live together and "stop being polite, and start getting real," and "Fear Factor" teaches us that people will eat horse testicles for money.

Let's use the example of "The Real World." Each week's episode of "The Real World" is a half hour of taped conversations, complaints and conflicts between housemates. That

half hour is gleaned from a week of taping. Obviously the episode has to be edited down from a week, or 168 hours, into a half an hour, and to do that the producers pick out which tidbits will show the housemates in conflict with each other, and their resolutions. The effect of this is that we see what the producers want us to see, whatever conflict progresses the storylines of the characters. To keep viewers happy the producers must promote the drama of the show, so producers air the "reality" that progresses the storylines.

The "reality" is packaged for us, plot moving from point A to point B simply enough for the audience to understand what is happening and why. This is how we learn that people from different backgrounds can get along when we find out that both the nerdy South Korean medical student and the trendy African-American singer slept with the alcoholic sorority sister. Frey does the same thing with his book, providing a path connecting his crimes that lead to his rehabilitation.

"A Million Little Pieces" is the reality TV of print media, and Frey is the editor. He shaped the true events of his life, and made up other events to convey a message of hope and redemption for addicts and criminals. Unfortunately, another lesson to be learned from this is that there's money to be made.

A fitting punishment for Frey's fabrications would be putting him on Fear Factor and making him eat something disgusting, like gorilla colons, and telling him he's eating something normal, like Rocky Mountain Oysters. Then we'll see how he likes getting lied to.

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Lyndon State Mountaineers Class Assist in Ice Climber Rescue

A real-life example of what can happen if you're not properly prepared or when things go wrong is not what LSC Recreation instructor Kelly Rossiter had in mind when he and seven students from his mountaineering class headed to Pinkham Notch on a January Sunday for their first practice of the ice axe arrest in Huntington Ravine. However, it was not long into their session of climbing and reascending the ravine to practice the technique when student Danny Pearl looked up and saw another climber come crashing down the trail above them, completely out of control. "We all looked up and saw this guy in a bouncing slide finally stop when he crashed into a rock face," said Rossiter, who coincidentally serves on the Upper Valley Wilderness Response Team. Lucky for the climber, not only was Rossiter prepared to offer assistance, but Pearl himself, a nursing student from Barnet, is an EMT, and Recreation student Jonathan Harty from Centerville, Mass., and Television Studies student Bill Praetorius of Hauppauge, N.Y., are Wilderness First Responders. The climber, who along with his partner, hailed from Sherbrooke, Quebec, suffered several broken bones, a spine injury and head trauma. The students reacted immediately to initiate a rescue response, calling 911 and the caretaker at the nearby Tuckerman trail head. Then, using rescue equipment from a cache stored at the base of the ravine, they stabilized the injured climber and had him ready for transfer to a litter when the professionals arrived. Once the transfer was accomplished, the students helped belay the litter to the base, a slow process that involved using 600 feet of rope. Other students involved in the rescue were Brad Allain of Southbridge, Mass., Jameson Kneeland of Merrimack, N.H., Andrew Lawton of East Granby, Conn., and Meghan Skidmore of Dayville, Conn. All are Recreation majors except for Lawton, who is majoring in Interactive Digital Media. "As bad as these situations are," Rossiter said, "it went as well as it could." The weather worked both ways, he went on - the warmth protected the injured hiker from hypothermia, but the preceding freeze and thaw cycle created a slick snow pack that contributed to the incident. There is no word on the hiker's current condition at this time.

New Smoking Shelter for the Smokers

By Crystal Johnson

After many years of smoking in the rain and snow, smokers finally have a place to congregate and seek shelter from the elements. To the relief of many smokers and many non-smokers, a gazebo is now available to those who wish to smoke in peace. The gazebo will allow those who smoke a place to comfortably enjoy their cigarettes, while allowing those who would not like to be exposed to second hand smoke to enter their buildings without worry. Littering has caused concern for the staff and faculty and it is hoped that the gazebo will take care of this problem.

The smoking policy has also been an issue on campus for several years as the administration found a way to try and resolve the issue. "Forums were held in the residence halls, and the matter was discussed in the Student Government, and the Health and Safety Committee spent considerable time during the spring of 2001 in developing the policy that attempts to allow smoking on campus without infringing on the safety and comfort of those who do not wish to breathe second-hand smoke," Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administration, said.

Since 2001, the college has enforced a 25 foot rule, which states that smokers must not smoke within 25 feet of any building on campus, with the exception of LAC. However, several students had been breaking this rule, to the dismay of the staff, faculty and non-smokers. Smokers would gather in

doorways allowing their smoke to enter the buildings through the doors and windows. While this new gazebo could fix this problem, most students don't know that it is available to them even though it's open to all.

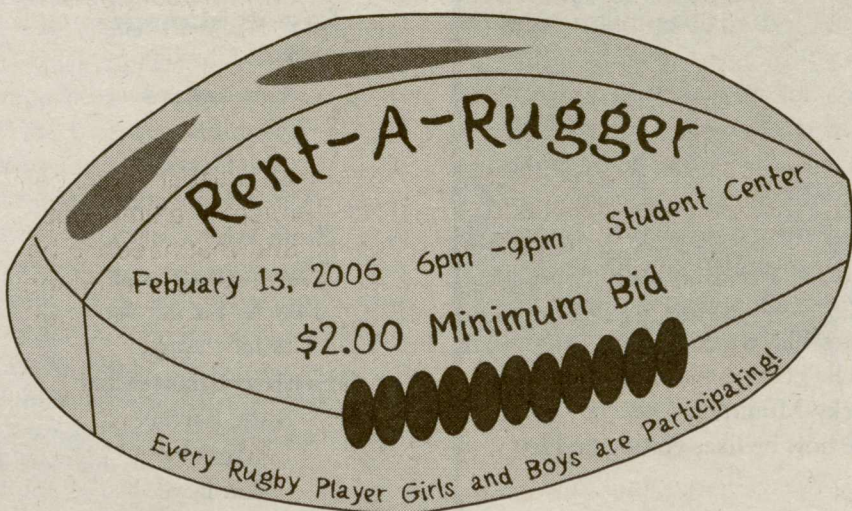
"The idea was that this would reduce the need to congregate near building entrances, particularly in bad weather," Hamilton said. "The administration approved the purchase of one shelter to try this approach." The hope that this may solve the complaints that students are being disrupted in their choice to remain smoke-free, the gazebo is only in the beginning of its trial period. If students are using the gazebo, it could lead to more being set up around campus wide.

For those who expect more of these shelters to pop-up around campus automatically, think again. "We intend to evaluate the use of the shelter in the weeks ahead, and to assess its success in reducing litter and second-hand smoke on campus," said Hamilton. This means that if the shelter is not used, there will be no more placed around the campus. It is suggested that if this seems like something that students wish to continue seeing more of around campus, they should use this new gazebo as much as possible or it may be the only one.



The new smoking gazebo.

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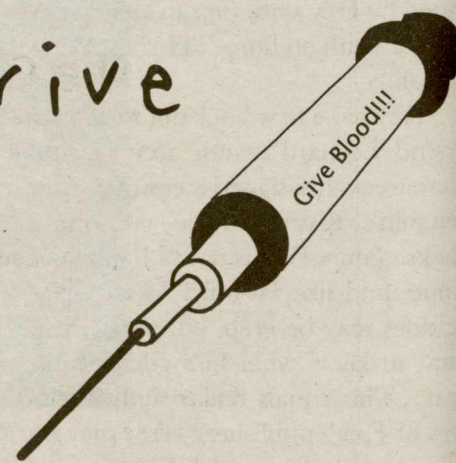


Blood Drive

February 13, 2006

Rita Bole Gym

12:00pm - 5:30 pm



.....Fun Page.....

VALENTINES DAY WORD SEARCH

H E A R T S F X S R H U G S
O L M S Q L C D E E P M O Z
R O S V O F N N X T L H J K
O S C W A E N A C H E G S Y
S K E N I L S T R G T Y T R
E R L R D A E H G U T S F L
S G F R I N M N R A E A I E
C O N D O M S N T L R L G W
Y K I S S E S C I I S O E E
S R E V O L J D C A N D Y J
G I R L F R I E N D E E A D
A C H O C O L A T E L A N J
N A S T R O M A N C E I L O
B O Y F R I E N D E O D N L

The words go horizontal, vertical, backwards, forwards and diagonally. Good Luck

- | | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------|-----------|
| BOYFRIEND | FLOWERS | HUGS | LOVERS |
| CANDY | FRIENDS | JEWELRY | ROMANCE |
| CHOCOLATE | GIFTS | KISSES | SEX |
| CONDOMS | GIRLFRIEND | LAUGHTER | VALENTINE |
| DINNER | HEARTS | LETTERS | |

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@ The Critic LSC box 7951 or ext. 6215 or email.
Nicole.Miner@lsc.vsc.edu

Horoscopes

By Madame Divine

Aries: Mar. 21-Apr. 20

The Ram

Get involved. You are creative and need to channel your creative energy into something positive. Let people see your true ability and strengths.

Taurus: Apr. 22- May 21

The Bull

Make a move on that special Valentine you have been eyeing. Nothing ventured, nothing gained. A single rose or a sweet card can go a long way.

Gemini: May22-June 21

The Twins

Be patient. Obstacles will come your way, but learn to deal with them in a grown up fashion. Others around you will respect your efforts.

Cancer: June 22-July 22

The Crab

Try something new. There is nothing like a new experience to get the blood pumping. Drink lots of electrolytes. Do something exhilarating.

Leo: July 23-Aug.22

The Lion

Be in control of your future. Everything happens for a reason and now is your time to shine and show the world exactly who you are.

Virgo: Aug 23-Sept. 23

The Virgin

Allow yourself the time to complete assignments with thought and care. Procrastinating doesn't help anyone and your work comes out sloppy. Time management also allows you to be sure of any free time you have to enjoy yourself.

Libra: Sept. 24-Oct. 23

The Scales

Smile. It is the easiest way to improve a bad day or to brighten someone else's. Write a thank you note to someone who has been there for you lately and pass along the good deed.

Scorpio: Oct. 24- Nov. 22

The Scorpion

Keep your chin up. Don't let life get the best of you. Take your own destiny by the reins and run with it. See where the next great adventure could take you.

Sagittarius: Nov.23- Dec. 21

The Archer

Pay attention to politics. There is an issue being discussed that effects you personally and it will be good for you to be knowledgeable on the subject.

Capricorn: Dec. 22- Jan. 20

The Goat

Have fun. You have been doing more work than necessary lately and you deserve to treat yourself. Go out with a bunch of friends or stay in with your special someone and rent a romantic comedy.

Aquarius: Jan. 21- Feb. 19

The Water Carrier

Life is all over the place. Trying to organize it would be an impossible task. Take on one project at a time, but still look to the near future to plan out what needs to be done next. Keep a day planner, you want to stay on top of things, if you fall behind now you will never catch up.

Pisces: Feb.20- Mar. 20

The Fishes

Stress is a real bother. Try some new breathing exercises or a meditation tape. Stress can cause major issues in your life and more issues is the last thing you need. Get some sleep.

New Faces at LSC

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Every semester brings a new group of students to the Lyndon State College campus. Last fall, 509 new students arrived at LSC, Donna Keely, Director of the First-Year experience, said. The spring semester brought in a smaller amount of 121 students. Out of those 121 students 44 were re-admitted students, 49 were transfers and 28 were new to the college altogether. About a quarter of the new students live in the residence halls, Keely said.

Orientation for spring 2006 started on January 16th, just before students returned from winter break. It was modeled after the fall orientation; one day being devoted to the SOAR (Student Orientation and Registration) session and three days involving programming so the new students could get better acclimated to the LSC community, Keely said.

The spring arrivals will be under the watch of the First-Year program. Keely is the one who keeps track of new students' grades, class attendance, behavior, and social conduct. "Anything related to their overall success is what I keep track of," Keely said.

Renovations To Be Completed in May

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Changes are coming to Vail this semester. Where the Business and Registrars Offices were once located is now an empty space with the personnel moved to various other offices down the hall. The reason for this is due to a combination of digital information recording technology and a desire to co-locate the Business, Registrars and Financial Aid offices into one place, Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administration said.

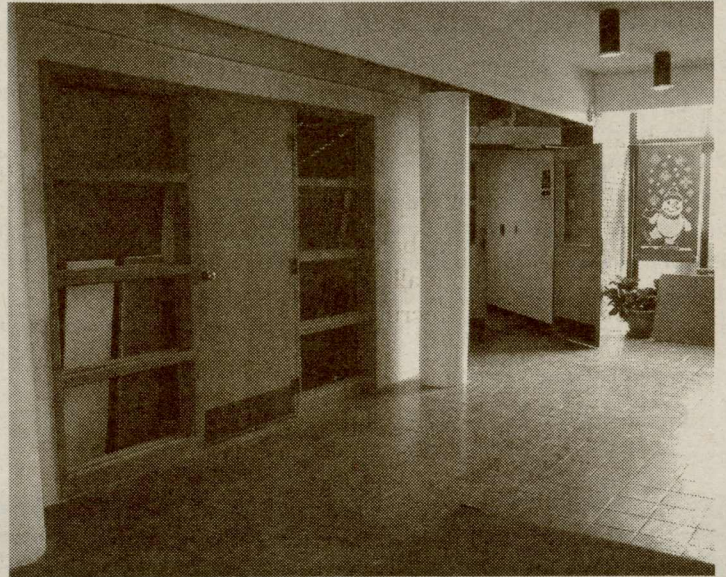
Prior to the renovations, much of the space shared by the Business and Registrars personnel was taken up by a large, cylindrical vault used to store hard copies of school records. The past few years have been spent scanning the files and recording them digitally, eliminating the need for such a large storage space, Hamilton said. Removing the vault will allow the people who worked there more workspace and give some added privacy, Hamilton added.

Another benefit of the renovation is that the Financial Aid Office will be able to work in the same area as the Business and Registrars offices, making it so students won't have as far to go when they have multiple questions for different departments. "By co-locating these offices we hope to minimize the shuffle," Hamilton said.

The \$120,000 project is expected to be complete by May 5th 2006. The project could be completed sooner but it was decided that it would be best to wait until the semester was

over before moving the offices, Hamilton said. Meanwhile, those working in the re-located offices are looking forward to the move. "I think it's going to be great when it's done," Sherri Wood, Record Specialist, said.

The desire for these renovations has been around for the past three or four years. It wasn't until recently that the application for State funding was approved, Hamilton said.



The newly renovated 3rd Floor Vail

Portners Say "Farewell" With Love Letters

By Crystal Johnson

This semester, Richard Portner, Professor of Television Studies, and his wife, Terry Portner, Instructor of English and Fine and Performing Arts, will give Lyndon State College a resounding farewell. This marks the last year that Richard Portner will be a fulltime faculty member, and to finish the year with style and grace, the two professors will perform a well loved play by A.R. Gurney. "Love Letters" is a simple, yet poignant story that follows two characters through their correspondence with one another. Performed with minimal props, the story speaks the truth of love: you can't always have what you want and you don't always know what you have until you lose it.

Written in 1989, the play unfolds as Andrew Makepeace Ladd III and Melissa Gardner begin their relationship by writing thank you notes back and forth; eventually bringing their interaction one step further. During boarding school, college and even when Andrew goes off to war, their correspondence continues. Although the lovers have no real physical interaction onstage, other than through their letters, their love is true and real in a way that is hard to deny. "It's simple in technical demands... [But] it can be very touching. We hope we do that for the audience," Richard Portner said. On the same topic, "It doesn't need anything else. The beauty of it is the simplicity. You're witnessing the evolution of a relationship." Pat Webster, Library Cataloger and producer of "Love Letters," said.

This play debuted to a full house at LSC in 1993 to benefit the Faculty/Staff Scholarship Fund, however, that was not the first time the Portners have performed this play. In 1992, the pair performed "Love Letters" for The Weathervane Theater in Whitefield, New Hampshire, where Richard Portner still oversees theater operations. "For me, live theater is a metaphor for human behavior. It helps us celebrate and understand ourselves as human beings and our relationships," Richard Portner said. The idea to bring

this play back for one last performance came after his decision to become a part time faculty member. Last year, Webster approached the Portners and suggested they revive the show. "Many people have never seen the Portners onstage. This is the perfect opportunity to see two gifted actors at work," Webster said.

Portner cited one line in particular from the play, spoken by Andrew, that he feels truly captures the relationship that the two characters share. In essence, Andrew is confessing that, "When I write to you, this is the real me expressing to you the real me that doesn't have to be afraid of the facades we put up." The true essence

of the play is portrayed onstage by two actors, sitting at a desk, interacting through the writings of these two individuals. The happiness, sadness, triumphs and defeats that these characters share with one another, and the audience, really hits home for many who have the privilege of seeing this performed.

The play will visit LSC for two nights only and it is suggested that you arrive early to ensure yourself a good seat. Show times are: February 10th and 11th at 7:30 p.m. in the Alexander Twilight Theater. Tickets are free for LSC Faculty, Staff, and Students with ID.



Richard and Terry Portner

.....Basketball Player Spotlight.....

Competition Drives Co-Captain Nichole Arel

By Dillon Eliassen

Nichole Arel is a co-captain and point guard for the Lyndon State College Women's Hornets basketball team, and an Education major, focusing on Elementary Education.

Arel, at five feet, three inches tall, played basketball at Lamoille Union High School in Hyde Park, VT., where she caught the eye of Women's Hornets coach and LSC math professor, David Mellor. After watching her play in several high school games, Mellor asked Arel to enroll and play basketball at LSC. "I think it's cool he goes to all the games of a person he wants to recruit," Arel said of Mellor.

Arel's personal best performance playing for LSC is 26 points, scored against St. Joseph's College of Maine.

Arel has played basketball since the third grade, picking up the sport from her friends and family. "I was always around it, my family and friends played it," Arel said. What she likes about basketball is that it is competitive. "I'm pretty competitive, so that part of any sport appeals to me."

Arel's basketball role model is a friend whose mother passed away from cancer during the basketball season in eighth grade. "It was overwhelming to see how strong and confident she was

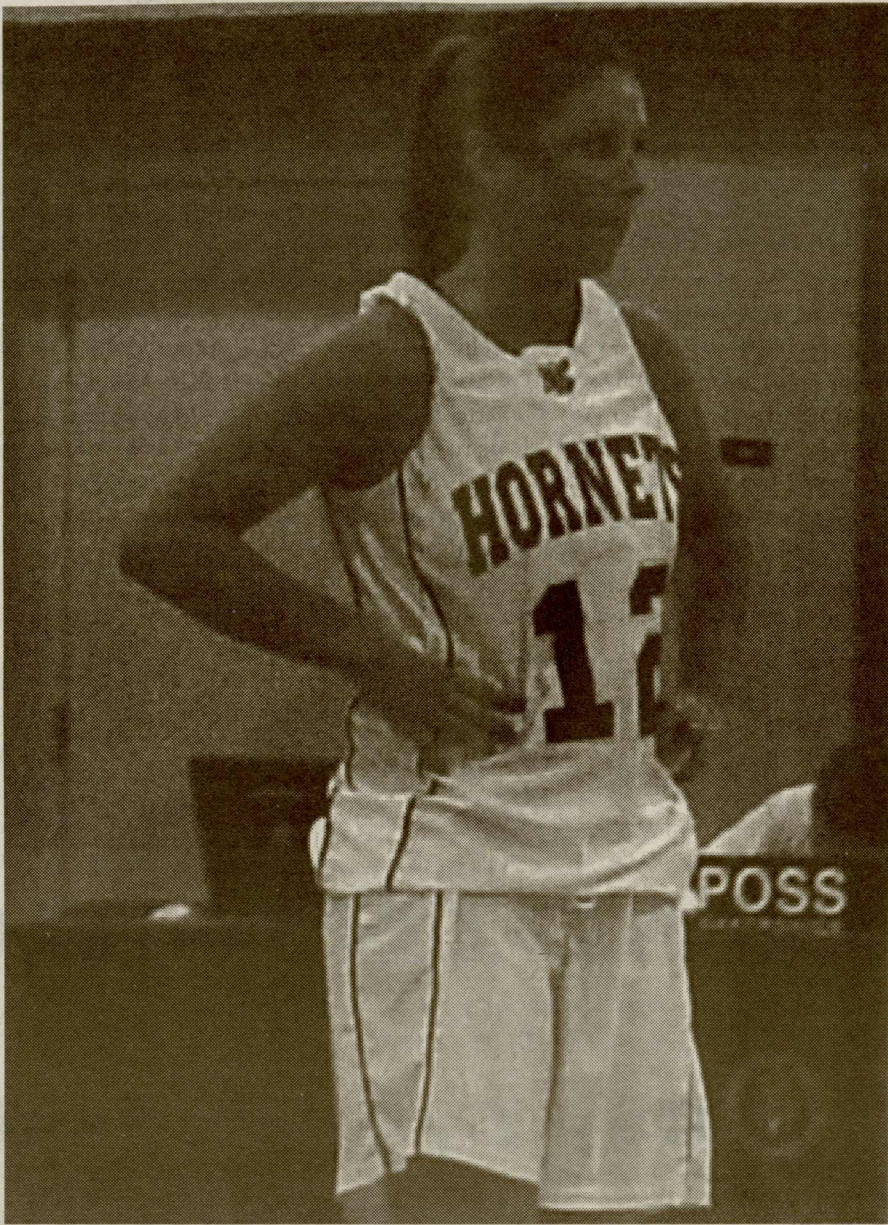
during that time," Arel said. Arel's father coached her "on and off" from seventh grade until she graduated from Lamoille. The most important advice she received was from her father. "He would tell us, 'If you don't give 100% in practice how can you expect to be 100% in anything else,'" Arel said. "I hated it then, but I think it's cool now."

Arel's advice to freshmen who wish to play basketball at LSC: "It's only going to be four years, so enjoy it while you can, because," she snaps her fingers, "it goes by like that."

She's lived in Vermont all her life, and after graduation wants to move out of state. "I really have no idea where I want to go; I just want to live outside of Vermont a little bit."

Arel has played piano for 12 years, plays in her piano teacher's band in Burlington, VT, but is modest about her musical skills. "We just get together and make stuff up," Arel said.

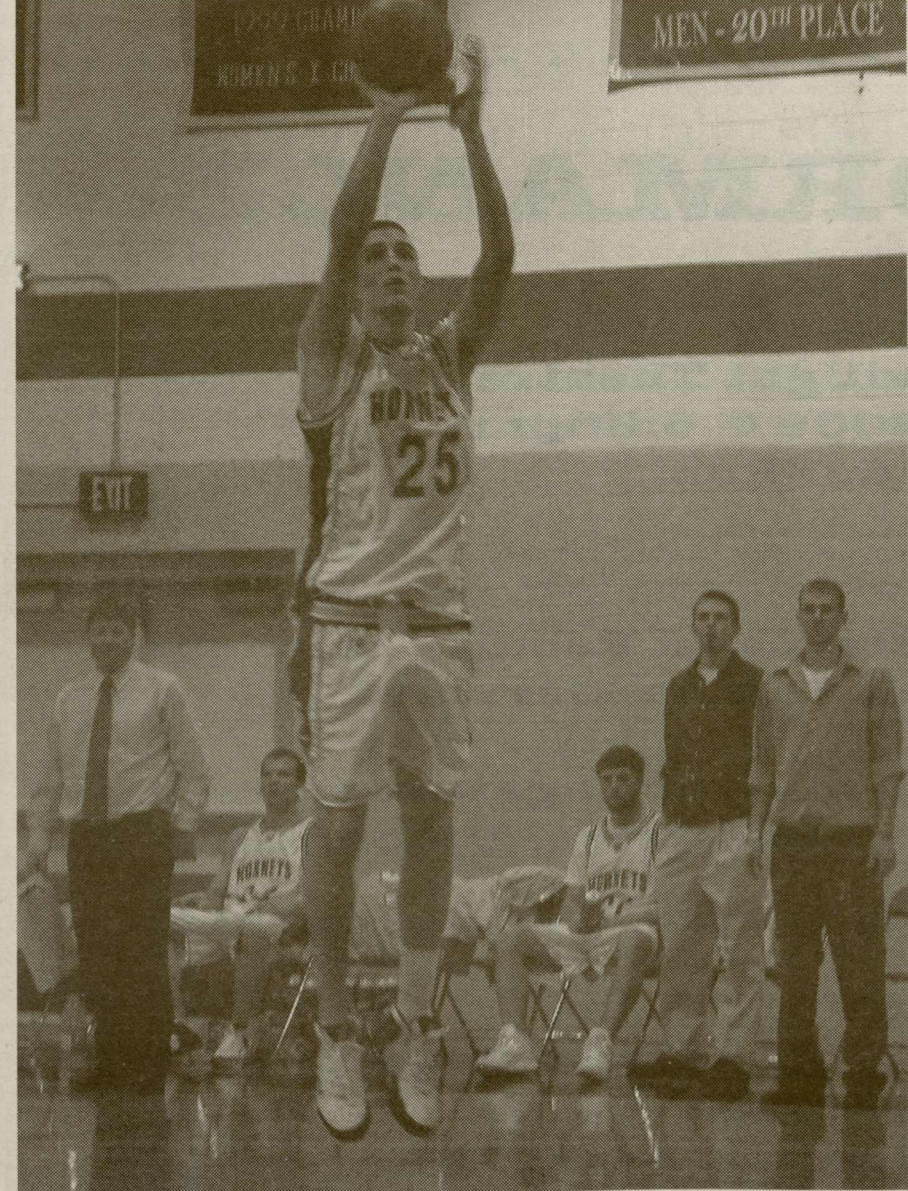
Her favorite book is "The Da Vinci Code," by Dan Brown, and prefers eating seafood. She is a Boston Celtics fan, the team her favorite player Larry Bird played for, and her favorite college team is Duke University's Blue Devils.



Arel patiently waits for the ball to come back into play.

Durr Causes a Stir on Lyndon State Basketball Court

By Dillon Eliassen



Durr takes the opportunity to hit the net and score a few points for LSC.

Brad Durr is a 20 year old sophomore, and plays center for the Men's Hornets basketball team. Durr, measuring six feet, eight inches, comes from a tall family, but isn't the tallest member of his family. He has a brother who is six feet and eleven inches tall.

Durr began his athletic career playing soccer, but after noticing that all his friends played basketball, he said "I thought 'I'm tall, I might as well play basketball.'"

Durr, who's played basketball since the seventh grade, enjoys the game because "it's challenging," and that on "any given day anyone can win."

Men's Hornets basketball coach, Eric Berry, watched Durr, originally from Royal Oak, MI, play in a quarterfinals game at E.O. Smith High School in Storres, CT. After the game Berry asked Durr to apply to LSC.

Durr's best game since enrolling at LSC was against Vermont Technical College at the beginning of the year, scoring 28 points and racking up 12 rebounds.

Durr says the most important thing he's learned from playing basketball is "teamwork; working with

others to accomplish one's goal."

"Academics come first at Lyndon," Durr advises anyone who wants to play basketball at LSC. "We play basketball for the love of the game, not because we get scholarships. Without [academics] you can't play."

The hardest part of playing basketball at LSC, Durr said, is not knowing when practices are. "Time management" is also a problem for Durr, "I'm always on the go."

Durr was an Education major, and wanted to be a special education teacher, but switched his major to Human Services. "I want to work with people, mainly children," he said.

After graduation, Durr would like to stay in Vermont. "I like Vermont a lot," he said, explaining that unlike Connecticut, "It's got mountains."

When he's not busy clearing the boards for the Hornets, or at classes, Durr likes to play Xbox. His favorite movie is The Bad News Bears, and likes watching the TV shows Nip/Tuck and Over There. Durr's favorite team is the Houston Rockets, and his favorite player is Tracy McGrady.

Men's and Women's Hornets defeat St. Joe's and Machias

By Dillon Eliassen

Women's Basketball Stats

The Lyndon State College Women's Hornets basketball team was victorious at home and away, defeating St. Joseph's and Machias, respectively, pushing their record forward to 14-6 for the year.

On February 2 the Hornets hosted the College of St. Joseph's Vermont Fighting Saints, winning 69-56. The Hornets prevailed without the help of co-captain and leading scorer Alicia Shedd, who didn't play due to a tonsil infection. Guard and Co-captain Nichole Arel led the team, nailing 15 points and passing out 7 assists. Sara Fetterhoff and Whitney Hoyt each scored 10 points, while Krystle Gould made eight points and claimed 11 rebounds.

After the game Arel commented, "It was a big win without a captain."

"It was a good overall team win," David Mellor, the Women Hornets coach, said. "A lot of players contributed who might not have otherwise contributed."

At the University of Maine at Machias on February 4, the Lady Hornets ran by the Clippers, with a final score of 84-65. Arel led the team in scoring again, with 23 points, and Hoyt netted 16 points. Kagan Prouty and Holly Scott each racked up eight points, and both Fetterhoff and Gould scored six points. Shedd was back in action against the Clippers, combining with Gould to pull down 15 rebounds. Every player scored points against the Clippers, and altogether the team had 23 assists.

"We shot extremely well in the second half," Mellor said. "Overall, it was a good team effort."

Men's Basketball Stats

The Lyndon State College Men's Hornets basketball team extended their record to 16-4 for the year, with a home win against the College of St. Joseph's Fighting Saints, and an away win against the University of Maine at Machias Clippers.

The Men's Hornets beat St. Joe's Fighting Saints 83-71 on February 2nd. Center Brad Durr and guard Tanner Pryce led the Hornets in scoring, with 22 points, and 19 points, respectively. Center Alex Ibey had 18 points and pulled down nine rebounds, and guard Chris

Dorsey racked up 12 points and 10 assists.

"We played better defense," Durr said. "And our intensity was better." On February 4, The Hornets edged out the University of Maine at Machias Clippers 82-76. Pryce had 28 points, hitting eight three-pointers. Dorsey repeated his previous game's performance with another 12 points and 10 more assists. Also contributing against Machias was forward Brent Fowler with 12 points, and centers Kali Stoddard-Imari and Durr scored 14 and 13 points, respectively.

VAGINA MONOLOGUES

V-Day Lyndon State College is Coming!

V-Day LSC 2006

is a benefit production of Eve Ensler's
"The Vagina Monologues"
as part of the V-Day College Campaign

ONE PERFORMANCE ONLY!

At the Alexander Twilight Theatre.
On February 16th, 2006 @ 6:30pm
Doors open at 6:00pm.

Cast to include: LSC Students, Staff and Faculty. Also the members of the Hardwick Vagina Warriors.

Goal: To raise awareness to stop violence against women and girls and funds for our beneficiaries, Umberall

Admission is free for students. Contact Person: Sue Henry x6242

Sponsored by: Lyndon State College, The Critic and WWLR The Impulse.

Special Thanks to Harry Mueller, Aaron Young, Kate Arnold and The Twilight Players.

The Critic

serving the student voice at Lyndon State College

Lyndonville, VT

March 09, 2006 Volume 52, Number 9

FREE!

WWLR Hits Choppy Waters

By Nicole Miner

The Campus Activities Board (CAB) went to WWLR and asked them for \$2,600 to bring Barry Drake, a 60s rock lecturer, to campus, according to CABs minutes. In the past, WWLR usually follows the lead of the General Manager. Until Wednesday (March 8) Kerri Nelson was the General Manager of WWLR. Mark Hilton, Advisor to WWLR, refused to sign the check for Drake, pending the approval of the Directors, Jeremy Lacey, former Program Manager and newly instated General Manager, said. After a discrepancy in voting over whether to reallocate funds to CAB for Drake to perform on campus, Nelson resigned as the General Manager for WWLR. Stephanie Rose, co-music director, resigned as well. In their absence from a Director's meeting, the rest of the executive board voted against sponsoring Drake, according to The WWLR minutes. "I just assumed everyone would go along with the General Manager. That is how it usually goes. I voted no so that there would not be a tie," Lacey said. "I didn't put that much thought into [sponsoring Drake],"

Lacey said. Once Lacey became the General Manager, a new Program Manager was needed. Only two students fit the criteria for the position, Lars Christensen and Mar Schmuttlach. Christensen became the Program Director and Schuttlach became the Business Director, a position that was not previously filled. The Executive Board for WWLR elected Steve Shannon, pending acceptance, into the position of Production Manager, a position not currently in their constitution. A new Music Director is still needed and WWLR plans to hold a whole club membership election to fill the vacant position, Lacey said. Due to an oral agreement, CAB began the paperwork required to bring Drake to campus, according to the CAB advisors Kate Murphy and Brandon Buckley. Now that it is in the works CAB needs to come up with the \$2,600 needed to pay Drake. CAB is currently seeking other funding and WWLR has re-elected and appointed new management for their club. Further details to appear in the next issue of The Critic.

LSC Professor Errupts Over Volcanoes On Vermont Public Radio

By Joshua James Gervais

A passenger airplane flies over south-central Alaska. The plane's flight plan takes it directly into a cloud of ash from Mount Augustine, one of Alaska's active volcanoes. In an instant the plane's engines go dead and its crew, cargo, and passengers are left with nothing to keep them in the sky. The pilot tries to restart the engines—once, twice, three times—with no results. The coarse ash scratches the plane's windows preventing the pilot from seeing outside the plane. If something isn't done quickly the plane will soon crash into the Pacific Ocean. The pilot tries to restart the engines one more time. The engines come back to life and the plane continues toward its destination.

Bruce Barryman, professor of meteorology, talked to Vermont Public Radio about efforts to monitor and forecast volcanic ash and preventing accidents such as the one described above. Barryman said for ten years LSC graduate Jeff Osicnsky has been studying smoke plumes in Alaska for the National Weather Service. Alaska has numerous volcanoes along the Aleutian Islands, the Alaska Peninsula, and the Cook Inlet.

These volcanic islands include Mount Augustine which has erupted several times this year, and Mount Cleveland has only recently started to produce ash.

"There have been several close calls with airlines," Barryman said, volcanic ash poses a major threat to airplanes flying over Alaska. An airplane flying through the ash almost crashed after its engines failed. In addition, ash is coarse and it scratches an airplane's windows reducing visibility for the pilot. Barryman said that one plane touched down with a window so scratched up that it was impossible to see through.

Forecasting the location of the ash plumes allows aircraft to avoid them, Barryman said. Air traffic in the area above Mount Augustine and Mount Cleveland is on the rise. By predicting the locations of volcanic ash plumes meteorologists can help airlines make better flight plans so they can avoid sending planes through ash plumes, and risking accidents. "Since [Osicnsky's] been doing it," Barryman said about the work Osicnsky does to predict ash plumes, "there haven't been any near misses."

Douglas Lays it Down; Scholarship Plan Meets Opposition

By: Keith Whitcomb Jr., with reporting from Tabitha Fitzgerald and Mary Wheeler

Vermont Governor, Jim Douglas, visited 75 students, faculty and staff in the Rita Bole community room on February 10 to outline his plan to give \$175 million in scholarships to Vermont college students over the next 15 years.

Douglas' plan has been met with some criticism. According to the Burlington Free Press, Senator Susan Bartlett did not agree with the programs source of revenue.

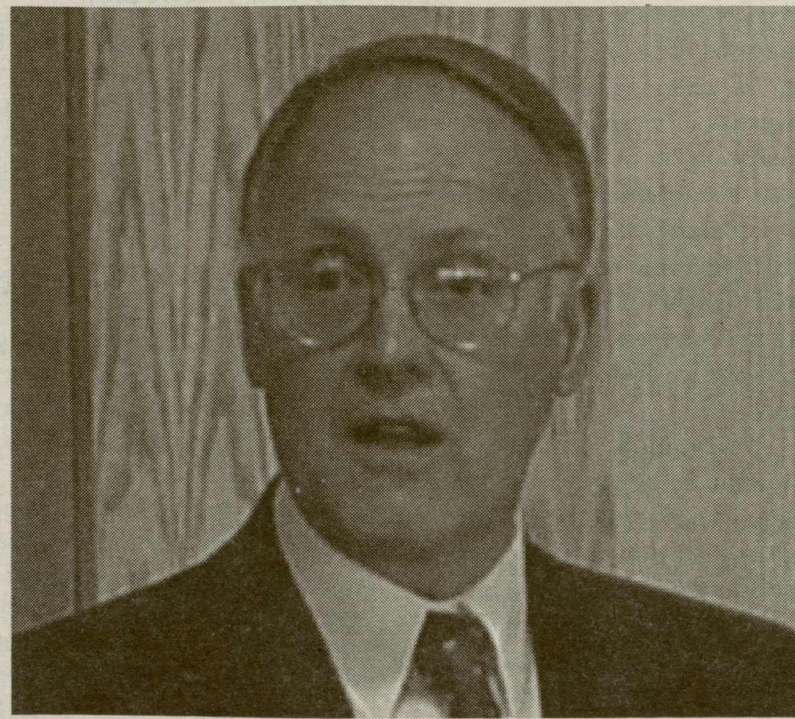
The money for the Promise Scholarship Program is a one time deal. Those who don't agree with the revenue source don't agree with the idea, Douglas said.

The money for the Vermont Promise Scholarship program comes from lawsuit settlements against the tobacco industry. Each state gets a certain amount based on its population. The state of Vermont is due for a slight increase in reparations from the tobacco companies in the next ten years, Douglas said.

The idea behind the new scholarship program is to keep graduates of Vermont colleges in Vermont, Douglas said. "The problem in one word is demographics," Douglas said. Vermont leads the nation in the number of high school graduates that leave their home state, Douglas said. Combined with other factors, such as an aging population and low birth rates, Vermont will soon experience a shortage of young people in the workforce, Douglas said.

The program also hopes to encourage high school graduates to seek higher education in Vermont. "Studies show that a large percentage of young people begin their working lives very close to where they graduate from college," Douglas said.

According to a press release from the Governors office, the Promise Scholarships would be available to Vermont high school graduates. More than 1000 awards per year that could cover up to 50 percent of tuition would be given out. Recipients of the scholarships would then have to stay in Vermont for three years or pay half of the money received back as a no interest loan



Governor Jim Douglas

Modest Ambassador Visits Lyndon State

By Joshua James Gervais

The Republic of Belarus has survived wars, a nuclear disaster, and the collapse of the Soviet Union. Dr. Andrei Dapkiunas, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Belarus, came to Lyndon State College on Thursday, February 16, and attempted to show the country through his own eyes. "I'll do whatever it takes to get your attention," Dapkiunas said.

Despite being well educated and knowing numerous languages, Dapkiunas was modest. He insisted that it was unnecessary to refer to him as "You're Excellency," the formal term for addressing an ambassador.

Dapkiunas talked about Belarus' unique place in the world serving as a bridge between different cultures, lan-

guages, and religions. Belarus was influenced by many sources, but somehow managed to maintain a culture and identity of its own.

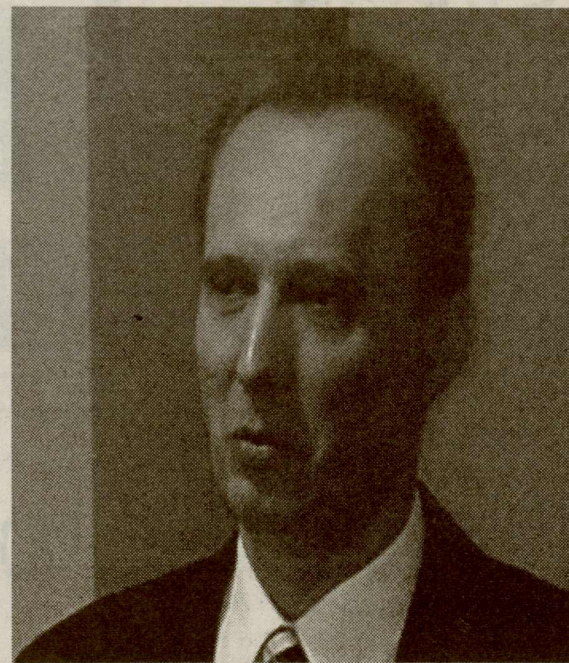
Throughout its history, Belarus has been brought into its neighbor's conflicts. Belarus was also affected by the nuclear disaster in Chernobyl. Dapkiunas said that 150,000 Belarusians were permanently relocated because of the accident and that since then a quarter of Belarus' national budget has gone to deal with the after effects of the incident.

Dapkiunas spoke about the national character of Belarus. He said that Belarusians tend towards localism, caring more about their local area than national or world affairs. Dapkiunas said that Belarusians often

said "I'm local" (in Belarusian) when asked about their nationality.

The Belarusian government and its President, Alexander Lukashenko, has been criticized as being undemocratic. Belarus is the only European country left out of the Council of Europe. "Belarus chooses its own way," Dapkiunas said. He added that it takes time for a nation to flourish like America has. "We need to assert ourselves as masters of our own land," Dapkiunas said "As masters of our own household."

In January, Dapkiunas became the President of the United Nations Children's Fund's (UNICEF) Executive Board.



Ambassador Dr. Andrei Dapkiunas

Graduate Programs on Campus

By Megan Renaud

Lyndon State College is an exhilarating place to pursue a masters degree in education. LSC takes pride in providing the ongoing education school teachers and administrators need. This education includes both credit and non-credit courses and workshops for the in-service K-12 community. The topics LSC covers include science, math, and social studies.

LSC offers two degrees in the graduate program for education. They are a Master of Education and a Master of Science for Teachers. The Master of education degree is a program that will help educators strengthen their instructional skills and develop their leadership abilities. Not only does it prepare them to serve in a leadership role, but also it will help them to become a more inspiring educator. The Master of Science for Teachers program includes instruction in the foundations of education, in developmentally appropriate teaching practices, and is an integrated approach to content pedagogy and research. This rigorous course of study is demanding and requires a commitment to scholarship and academic excellence.

Registration for the graduate program is the same as for the undergraduate program. Registration will occur through the registers of office and the same policies and procedure are in place as they are in the undergraduate program.

If you have any questions about the graduate program you can contact admissions at 626-6413 or the Academic Dean at 626-6404.

Dog Day Afternoons at Lyndon State

By: Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Not all of LSC's valued community members walk on two legs, some make use of four. The presence of dogs on campus is nothing new. Despite a policy barring dogs from being inside buildings on campus, many of them can still be seen around the halls from time to time.

The policy barring dogs from LSC buildings is one that is enforced and people with dogs are asked to take them off campus, Charles Lacaille, Director of Public Safety said.

However, faculty and students alike will still bring their dogs into the buildings for various reasons. Lauren Morgan, a student at LSC will sometimes bring her ten month old black Labrador into the writing center when she can't find anyone to stay with the dog while it's at home. "She's too little to be home by herself...and too destructive," Morgan said. Morgan was not aware of the "no dogs on campus" policy and has never been asked to remove the dog by Public Safety.

The LSC community has also aided in socializing dogs for use as seeing-eye-dogs, Cathy Deleo, Professor of Recreation Resource & Ski Resort Management, said. Deleo used to bring a black Labrador named Rita along with another named Rica to LSC campus to get them better acquainted with people and dealing with various situations, Deleo said. Rita went on to become a seeing eye dog while Rica failed a part of the test required for the certification. Rica did get work as a drug detection dog with the Middletown police department in Connecticut. Seeing-eye-dogs in training usually are exempt from policies barring dogs from buildings. In the case of Rita and Rica, Deleo

received permission from LSC President, Carol Moore, Deleo said. "Most people really do like animals. It was a sort of pet therapy in the classroom," Deleo said.

Faculty members sometimes bring dogs with them when they go to work. Bob McCabe, Director of Student Support Services, will sometimes bring his yellow Labrador Norman (Norman is a female) in over breaks when students are off campus. He used to bring Norman around more often when he worked with the Upward Bound program and was off the main campus but doesn't bring her around as much, McCabe said. Both of McCabe's dogs wait for him by his car before he goes to work in the morning but the male dog is too active to bring on campus, McCabe said.

Deb Bailin, Director of Student Academic Development, can sometimes be seen with her Peke-a-poo (a cross between a Pekinese and a poodle) Queen La Taffa. The dog used to be named Taffy, but the Bailin family changed it, feeling the name was too dog-like, Bailin said. Bailin doesn't bring the Peke-a-poo formerly known as Taffy around campus very often. Only when she has to work late and no one will be at home to let Queen La Taffa out does the dog get to come to work, Bailin said.

People tend to enjoy the presence of dogs on campus. Dogs will often pass through the writing center where they know students will be happy to see them and give them food, Bailin said. Dogs can help relieve tension from stressed out students and faculty alike. "I think it's healthy for students at stressful times," Bailin said.

Kick the Habit in the Butt: Smoking Cessation

By Mary Wheeler

Smokers looking to kick their mid day cravings may soon find it easier to quit. Starting March 16, smoking cessation classes will be offered to Lyndon State College students, faculty, and staff free of charge.

These classes will be provided by the Smoking/Tobacco Education Committee (an ad-hoc of the Health and Safety Committee.) The committee is dedicated to developing a campaign to raise awareness of LSC's policies relative to smoking and of the hazards of smoking and tobacco. The committee is also devoted to assisting the LSC community in kicking their smoking habits. "Our goal isn't to preach or lecture," Brenda Sweet, Chair of the Health and Safety Committee said. "If people want to quit smoking they should know that LSC is here to help them in the process."

According to Sweet, the Smoking/Tobacco Education Committee began meeting in January 2006 and is currently meeting on a regular basis. Another concern that has been discussed amongst the college community that the committee is currently addressing is the substantial amount of cigarette butts left behind by smokers. The committee is hoping to find a solution that will be acceptable to everyone, Sweet said.

Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administration, said that depending on the success of the program, the committee will decide whether to make it an annual program, modify it, or discontinue

it all together. The costs for these programs are relatively small, as the Northern Vermont Regional Hospital (NVRH) will be providing some of the materials as well as several staff members will be in attendance. Some of the funding for the program will also be coming from the LSC's Dean of Administration budget, Hamilton said.

Pam Smart, a trained smoking cessation facilitator from NVRH will be monitoring the programs. The committee invites anyone from the LSC community to attend these meetings as they are especially interested in hearing the voices of smokers. Their next meeting will be on Friday, March 10 from 8:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. in the Vail Conference Room. Students can also contact the LSC Counseling and Health Services for more information.

The classes will run from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at the following dates:

Thursday, March 16
Thursday, March 23
Thursday, March 30
Thursday, April 13
Thursday, April 20
Thursday, April 27
Location: TBA

.....Editorials.....

Students Take on More Than They can Handle

By Nicole Miner

Two completely different skills are required for an Orientation Leader and a Peer Net Guide. While they both serve as a function to assist incoming freshmen, their roles are completely different. An Orientation Leader needs to have a lot of energy and school spirit. They also need to have patience and understanding in order to get more than 400 students through registration each summer. A Peer Net Guide is more of a friend that is there to connect with freshmen during their first year at LSC. Peer Nets check in and make sure classes are going well and help students out with and difficulties they are having. Being an Orientation Leader and Peer Net Guide, I know first hand the different skills it requires to fulfill each role.

This year, the roles of Orientation Leaders and Peer Net Guides will be filled by the same 18 or 20 students and will now be called Peer Leaders. There are many advantages and disadvantages that result from this shift in the First Lyndon Year staff. This year, for all of their hard work and efforts, Peer Net Guides received a sweat shirt. Granted, I love my sweatshirt. I wear it all the time, but next year Peer Net Guides will be receiving 2 credits of elective course work, plus another credit for a mini course that is necessary to take in order to become a Peer Leader. They will still have their graduation fee waived and a letter of recommendation from the LSC President, Carol Moore. This letter of recommendation has always amused me. This year there were more than 40 Peer Net Guides, many of who have probably never spoken to Moore. How can she write a letter of recommendation for a student she has never spoken to?

Peer Leaders will also be required to attend all summer SOAR and Orientation programs. It is a very time consuming requirement. In some aspects it is a very rewarding position, I met a lot of great people being an Orientation Leader, but I also lost a lot of hours at work and many hours of sleep. To compensate for missing work, Orientation Leaders, or Peer Leaders as there are now called, get paid for each SOAR session. For a 2 day SOAR Peer Leaders will be paid \$150, for a one day SOAR they will be paid \$75. They also get paid for Orientation. Last January I got paid \$100 for a 3 day Orientation. The entire payment package, including the graduation waiver, comes to \$1,475.

Peer Leaders, on top of facilitating summer and

January SOARs, will have to be available to be a resource in one of the INT 1020 classes. It is up to the discretion of the professor teaching the class whether or not they want a Peer Leader to be present in their class. In the past Peer Net Guides have been appointed by major, this year they are being matched up with students in a section of INT 1020. This will help in the transition of going from 40 Peer Net Guides to 18 or 20. Being a resource in a classroom will also guarantee that a Peer Leader will see their Peer Net Guides at least once a week. This will also help alleviate the problem of Peer Leaders trying to connect with students who live off campus.

Dr. Nolan Atkins, professor of Meteorology, thinks that department-based Peer Nets is better than sorting students by INT 1020 classes. The Meteorology Department will be continuing on with their own Peer Nets Guides. Meteorology students have a chance to pick thier Peer Net Guide. Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors volunteer to be Meteorology Peer Net Guides and then introduce themselves to the incoming Meteorology students. The incoming students are then allowed to pick which Peer Net Guide they feel they have the greatest connection with.

The Television Studies Department will continue on with their own Peer Net Guides as well. David Ballou, Chair of the Television Studies Department, did not recommend any of his students to be Peer Leaders. He felt the commitment was too much for an upper-level TVS major. TVS Peer Net Guides will assist the professor doing registration during the SOAR programs, but will not participate in other SOAR functions. Ballou said that Donna Keely, Director of First Year Experience, offered training to the new TVS Peer Net Guides.

"In concept to me it makes sense," Ballou said about the Peer

Leader program. Ballou, who originally came up with the term "Peer Net" said that it stands for two things. One, "net" is short for networking, and two, Peer Nets are a safety net for incoming students.

If I were returning for another year at LSC I doubt I would reapply to be a Peer Leader. I think that by combining being an Orientation Leader and Peer Net Guide a lot of qualified students will not apply. On top of a full course load, summer SOARs, a mini class, being a resource in an INT 1020 class, and being a role model and resource for a whole class of students seems really daunting. I am currently fulfilling the role of "practice Peer Leader." I sit in with an INT 1020 class and participate in class discussions and lead the class when the instructor is out. Later this semester I will be facilitating my own discussion with the class, but other than that I do not do much. Being a resource in the class is a great way to connect with my students, but it is also time consuming. I think that the program is a great idea and indeed a wonderful addition to LSC, but with all of the requirements I am not sure many people who are qualified could handle it.

Letter to the Editor

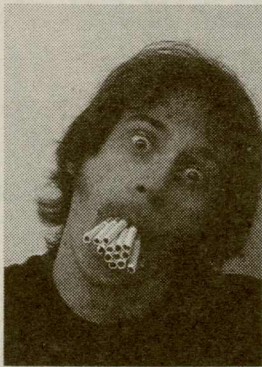
Dear Editor:

Imagine driving up McGoff, through all the mud, bumps and ruts, and you finally reach the pavement at the top. Aha, you're in the clear! If you live on campus, your destination is in sight, just a short distance to trying to find the closest parking spot possible. You drive on, and BAM! You hit the first bump. You hit another. And another. You cannot go around them because everywhere you go there is another bump! You begin to think you're on the smallest roller coaster ride in the world where your car is the rickety cart that is sure to fall apart if it goes over one last rise. You reach the front of the parking lot and at the end of the first row you encounter what quite possibly could be the largest pothole of your life. When you finally make it out, you reach another one!

I am writing in regards to the disaster that is the Stonehenge parking lot. It's winter and frost heaves occur, but the parking lot is one giant frost heave! Not only is it an annoyance to endure all the bumps, but also the amount of bumps in such succession can cause undue damage to the cars that travel across them. Could anything be done to alleviate this issue?

Candi Curran

LSCliques



By Dillon Eliassen

A few weeks ago I had to walk from my class in Vail to another class in HAC. Right as I left Vail 451, I found myself behind a guy on his cell phone. A student was talking on his cell phone loudly, and I could hear the other end of the conversation clearly enough. This was because his cell phone was a portable speaker phone; he had a walkie-talkie phone, and was in a discussion with someone named Martha. The conversation sounded something like this:

"Hey. [beep] Hey. [beep] What are you doing? [beep] I just got back from the store, what are you doing? [beep] Walking to class, did you get coffee filters? [beep] Yes. [beep] What kind? [beep] The regular kind. [beep] Oh, I told you to get the cone filters [beep] You didn't tell [static] Hello? Are you there? [beep] Hello? [beep] Can you hear me now? [beep] Yeah. [beep] Good [beep] [static]. Hello, Martha, can you hear me? [beep]..."

At this point I followed the phonie out of the second floor doors in Vail onto the sidewalk leading to HAC. As I stepped outside I was hit by a soothing, aromatic cloud of cigarette smoke. There were six people huddled together right outside the doors. "Excuse me," I said, waving my hands through the

Ding Dongs & Goofballs

cloud. An apology came from somewhere in the crowd. "It's cool," I answered over my shoulder. "I second hand smoke a pack a day."

I was still behind the phonie after I made it through the smoke cloud. "Can you hear me now? [beep] Yeah. [beep] Good. I wish you had got those filters [beep] Sorry. [beep] Whatever [beep] When do you get out of school today? [beep] In about an hour and a half [beep] When? [beep] An hour and a half [beep] Hello, can you hear me? [beep] Yes! Martha! I can hear you, can you hear me? [beep] Hello? [beep] Hello? Can you hear me now? [beep] Yeah, there you are..."

We were next to the pond adjacent to the library, when a fleet of Joey's sailed by. There were at least 10 of them, and they all had polo shirts on with the collars popped, and they were popped hard. It was a fairly windy day, but the collars seemed starched, stationary against the wind. Their collars were like little sails, pushing them up the sidewalk to Vail. I don't get this fashion statement. It is a fashion statement, right? It can't be that their necks are cold, there are better ways to keep your neck warm. It looks like how Count Dracula would wear a polo shirt. Can Joey's be creatures of the night? But I saw them during the day...

"OK, I have to go, I'm almost at class. [beep] [static] Did you hear me? Are you there? [beep] What did you say? [beep] I said I'm almost at class. [beep] [static] What? Do I have Elmo's glass? [beep] Class! I'm almost at class! [beep] Oh, OK, call me

when you get out. [beep]"

As we walked up the steps to HAC the phonie ended his call with a final beep, pulled open the door and looked to see if there was someone behind him that he should hold the door open for. "Don't forget to call Martha right when you get out," I said, walking by the phonie as he hung up.

"What, you were listening to my conversation?" he asked in an accusing manner. "Well, you did have your phone set to 'dumbass,' I mean, walkie-talkie, your phone was set to walkie-talkie." I corrected myself. "Everybody within earshot could hear you."

"Well, that's rude! You should apologize." I looked at him incredulously for a couple seconds, then answered. "You're right. I'm sorry. I'm sorry Martha doesn't know which coffee filters you like. I'm sorry you spend half the time on the phone asking if Martha can hear you or not. I'm sorry that you feel the need to share the mundane details of your life with innocent bystanders under the guise of a cell phone conversation." I walked away so I wouldn't have to talk to him anymore. I'm guessing he called Martha to comment about how rude I was.

Remember when the whole student demographic was made up of jocks, hippies and nerds? They're still there, but the Phonies, Smokies and Joey's are becoming more prevalent on LSC. I miss the good old school days when jocks gave hippies swirlies, hippies gave nerds swirlies, and the nerds rolled 26 sided dice and started obscure companies like Radio Shack and Microsoft. FREAKIN' NERDS!

Facing the FaceBook Issue

By Tabitha Fitzgerald

Recently, concerns have been addressed regarding the online social sites Facebook and Myspace. What was initially a way to communicate has now become a way to exploit, hurt and hire people. With the ability to view personal information how safe can these programs be? With more and more schools banning these sites from campuses how do local administrators feel about these programs being used at their schools?

At LSC students seem to feel that Myspace and Facebook are great programs with unlimited possibilities. Brett Bessett, an LSC graphic design major, feels that his Myspace account is an outlet for self expression. His account is open to everyone and contains cartoons, music and his personal artwork. "I think it is great, you can check out other people's music and it publicizes independent artists," Bessett said. Another student, Shandi Barclay, an LSC business major, had similar feelings. She confessed to putting "corny" things like favorite books and animated clips on both her Facebook and Myspace sites.

However, local administrators see potential problems with these sites. Linda Wacholder, Director of Career Services, said that there are growing concerns about student job hunting and possible predators. High schools are also seeing potential problems

and have begun to ban these site and others like them from their campuses. Lyndon Institute (LI) is one of them. Rob Heath, Assistant Headmaster of LI, said, "Students are not to be on any type of chat site." The school uses filters and monitoring devices to keep students off of chat sites, and the librarians have the ability to see what students are doing on the internet in their spare time and during study hall, Heath said.

As far as employers checking these sites for information on future employees, there are mixed feelings. Bessett said he would like to have his employers check his site because his work is on there. Despite the artistic material on his Myspace account, Bessett said, "It shouldn't be used as a valid reference for you as a person, there are too many fakes." "I don't think it should be checked [by employers]. People use fake names and take stuff from other people's sites," Barclay said.

As of right now LSC has no policy for Facebook or Myspace use. Local businesses have not yet begun to check up on job applicants using these sites. That is not to say that they will not do so in the future. With the world relying on technology more and more students need to be aware of what they will be facing come graduation.

IT Stamps Out Spam

By Joshua James Gervais

Unsolicited mail. Junk mail. Spam. No matter what you call it junk mail is a waste of resources at best and a threat at worst. Many junk emails are trying to get people to buy a product (from baldness cures to girl on girl action), but there are malicious junk emails that will try to trick you out of money or infect your computer with viruses.

Every email sent to an LSC email address has passed through three layers of protection, Michael Dente, Assistant Chief Technology Officer said. The first layer is a dedicated spam filter that is shared by all the Vermont State Colleges. The second layer is an Intelligent Message Filter that is part of the school's network, and the third is a virus filter part of the school's anti-virus program. On an average day, the first layer blocks 2,000 unsolicited emails while the second blocks 1,000, Dente said. Dente added that of the emails that the school gets is spam.

"Be careful where you give out your email"

In addition to solicitations, junk emails are used in phishing schemes and as carriers for viruses. Phishers use convincing looking messages to convince their targets to reveal their credit card numbers and other personal information. Dente said that some LSC professors were caught in a phishing scheme. Viruses are seen as less of a problem, "I can't remember the last time we've been infected," Dente said and the last significant virus attack to hit the school was the ILOVEYOU worm in 2000.

"Be careful where you give out your email," Dente said. Even with these protections in place, students need to make sure that the websites they give their email address to won't sell that address to spammers.

The Daggers

By Jenny Rossi

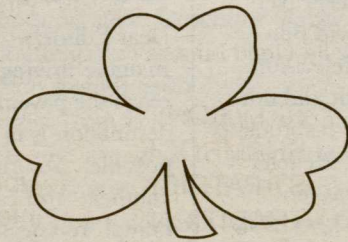
Calling all Snowboarders!!! Looking to shred with some chill people? Check out Lyndon's snowboard and ski club, the Daggers. Though 54 members strong, this close knit group has a passion for adrenaline and powder, welcoming newcomers and veterans alike.

And when winter ends, the fun doesn't stop there. The summer months are packed with skating and biking, (rollerblades are welcome but don't push it).

The Daggers were started by Andrew Desforge and have been active for 3 years, and snowboard primarily at Burke and Jay. Formal meetings are 2-3 times a semester in the Rogers Lounge, with fliers distributed on campus before rail jams. Also, 75% of the executive board is on the terrain staff at Burke, and a website is currently underway for all you folks looking for further information.

These tenacious boarders have a blast every Friday at Burke, and also on the weekends. So, get out there, have fun, and shred with the coolest club around, the Daggers.

Contact Info: (Treasurer)
SteveMahone@Lyndonstate.edu or
Daggers@Lyndonstate.edu



St. Patrick's Day Concert

Alexander Twilight Theater

Friday, March 17th, 2006 @ NOON.

The concert is free and open to all.

This event will feature a wide range of

Celtic music, both vocal and instrumental.

Performers include Ralph Aldrich, Patricia Sager, Stephen Herreid, and the Windrose quartet. Kevin Wilmarth is guest soloist.

Sponsored by LSC Lecture and Arts Committee

Adding a Little Creativity to Lyndon State College Campus

By Katie Barrett

In the past, the Lyndon State College Campus has been flourishing with work designed and produced by students. These pieces of work are carefully thought through, presented to administration, teachers and other faculty and staff, and executed by the students themselves. Students from all different academic departments are finding that the work that they do in the classroom will be presented around the college campus. Over the course of the semester you will see many projects floating around that will have been created by the students.

When a student has work published, or presented in a formal matter, it becomes a very big deal; it allows the students to feel good about producing work that will be seen by others. In the Digital and Graphic Arts Program, the Graphic Design department will be creating a variety of work that will be well thought up and produced by the students themselves.

One of the many projects that will be completed is by two students, Karen Perkins and Greg Graceau, of whom are in the Graphic Design department. Perkins and Graceau are in the Graphic Design Studio class. Initially the students were asked to come up with ideas for the

Craftsbury Chamber Players poster, pamphlet, and website. The Craftsbury Chamber Players are a group of performers who have been seen in Hardwick and Burlington, Vermont. The students came up with the ideas, and the top five designs were chosen and were presented to Mary Anthony Cox, the music director for the Craftsbury Chamber Players. Four students along with Kelly Glentz-Brush went to see Cox and four other associated who decided on the final design. The overall design that was chosen for the program, advertisement, and website will be based off of Graceau's ideas and the poster and brochure layout will be done by Perkins. "Its good preparation and a great opportunity to be working with real clients. It's also a nice feeling when you see something that you took part in get produced and distributed to the public," Perkins said.

Another one of the many projects that will be completed by the Graphic Design students will be done to the LSC book store. "The students in the Environmental Graphic Design class, will be carefully documenting the front and back wall of the bookstore, and will be designing a piece that will be installed by the students," Kelly Glentz-Brush said. Students are asked to go down into the book

store, take several images of the front and back wall and come up with a design that covers both retail and environmental graphics. The initial idea was brought up to Steve Rheume in the fall of 2005 about ways to spice up the book store. Rheume contacted Follett to ask for funding for the project which was graciously given. The Class will be coming up with ideas, and implementing them onto the images of the front and back wall, and presenting them to Rheume and Glentz-Brush and then to the administration once the final design has been chosen. Once the final design is chosen, the installation will begin. All installation will be done by the students and the production based on the design.

As many students know, there is a new course catalogue that comes out every year, but what many students might not know is that the design for the cover and the page layout is all done by the students in the Graphic Design Studio class. The students will be designing a cover and interior layout for the catalogue. All students will submit a cover idea, the students and administration, along with Glentz-Brush will be selecting the top designs which will be set up in a location which will allow students,

See Creativity on pg 6

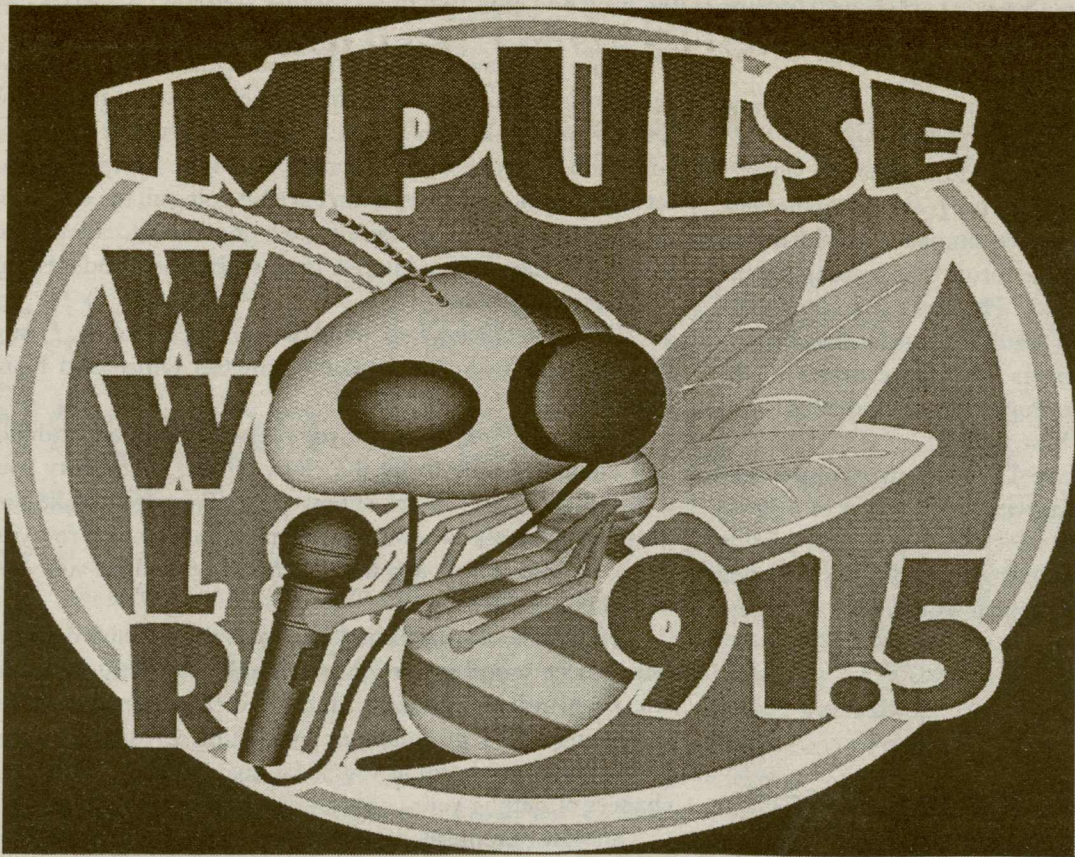
.....Fun Page.....

ST. PATRICK'S DAY WORD SEARCH

C J M D C T D E O A R U O A
A S T P A T R I C K A D K B
L R C U L T U R E A N E I E
E A L I R E L A N D R X C S
P A R A D E S T R Y L Y S E
R A O Y P N C I S U M O E O
E M S G A L H Y A V D E S T
C L R E R E L I G I O N T I
H I T B T E A S Y C H O R C
A C N H I K E Z T D O T A E
U J E C E T I N S R K S D J
N A X R S T H E B I S Y I Z
J O L U C K Y U E N E E T I
S E B H T I U S N K H N I T
D C K C O R M A H S C R O H
E B O E A H E O U A N A N I
A L V C W C N S F E I L E B
P O T O F G O L D Z P B V X

The words go horizontal, vertical, backwards, forwards and diagonally. Good Luck

- BELIEFS
BLARNEY STONE
CELTIC
CHURCH
DRINKS
- GREEN
IRELAND
KISSES
LEPRECHAUN
LUCKY
- MUSIC
PARADES
PARTIES
PINCHES
POT OF GOLD
- RELIGION
SHAMROCK
ST PATRICK
TRADITION



Horoscopes

By Madame Divine

Aries- March 21-April 19: Take time out for yourself. With everything going on in your life, you will need some time for rest and relaxation. So take advantage of any free time and catch up on what's important to you.

Taurus- April 20-May 20: Be mindful of what's going on in the world. You may be surprised at how much you have been missing and how much you can learn by simply reading a newspaper.

Gemini- May 21-June 21: Let your voice be heard. You have many great ideas and should channel your energies towards a cause that you're passionate about. Stand up for what you believe in and motivate others to do the same.

Cancer- June 22-July 22: Take a positive step towards your future. Start applying for a summer job or internship that could benefit you in years to come.

Leo- July 23-August 22: It's time to let go of your stubborn ways. You can't always win every battle, so do what you can to forgive the actions of others.

Virgo- August 23-September 22: Don't burn your bridges. You may need those people in the future and it's important to maintain a good relationship with co-workers, teachers, and friends.

Libra- September 23-October 22: Keep your life interesting. Start a club on campus, try something new, or introduce yourself to a stranger. You will be amazed at what you can learn.

Scorpio- October 23-November 21: You may feel under appreciated, but your efforts will be noticed. Be patient and people will notice and will respect you more because of all your hard work.

Sagittarius- November 22- December 21: Be open-minded. You may not agree with someone's opinions but it's important that you respect their feelings and personal views.

Capricorn- December 22-January 19: Creativity will bring you much joy. Painting, drawing or writing poetry can help you unwind after a long day of classes and work.

Aquarius- January 20-February 18: Find a balance between what you want to do and what others want you to do. It's important to remain true to yourself and know that you can't possibly take on all the offers people are offering you.

Pisces- February 19- March 20: Laughter is the key to happiness. Stop taking yourself so seriously and have some fun. Invite some friends over to watch a movie or cook dinner for someone special.

The Critic Wants YOU!

The Critic is currently looking for motivated students to fill the following positions:

- Cartoonist
- Game Creator
- Entertainment Reporter
- Photographer
- News Reporter

If you are interested in working for the Critic please contact:
Nicole Miner, Editor
@ The Critic LSC box 7951 or ext. 6215 or email.
Nicole.Miner@lsc.vsc.edu

Letter Policy: The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

Letters
The Critic
LSC Box 7951
Lyndonville, VT 05851

Are Drugs An Issue At Lyndon State College?

By Katie Barrett

When one comes to college for the first time it can be a life changing experience. For others it's a chance to experiment. With any college, there are issues with drugs and alcohol and Lyndon State College has its fair shares. Alcohol, marijuana and prescription drugs seem to be the most commonly confiscated by Residence Hall Directors (RHD) and Public Safety. "It's not hard for someone to find more than just prescription drugs, and marijuana on campus," freshman student Emily Howarth said.

At LSC, there are a variety of consequences for those in possession of illegal substances. The seriousness of each sanction depends on the amount the student possesses or if caught distributing. For a small amount of an illegal substance, the substance is confiscated, and a range of sanction are given to the student depending

on if the student is a repeat offender or not, and the amount. There is also \$200 fine, and immediate probation.

The drug issues seem to be spread out through the different age ranges of students. New and incoming students sometimes seem to be found in possession or distribution more often than the older students. The reasons for this maybe because students after their first year learn the ropes of the college. They learn what they can get away with and what the consequences of their actions will be if caught. "New and incoming students often to not have the right idea about what college is really like, and do not realize that there are rules and regulations that they must follow," Jonathan Davis, Director of Residential Life said.

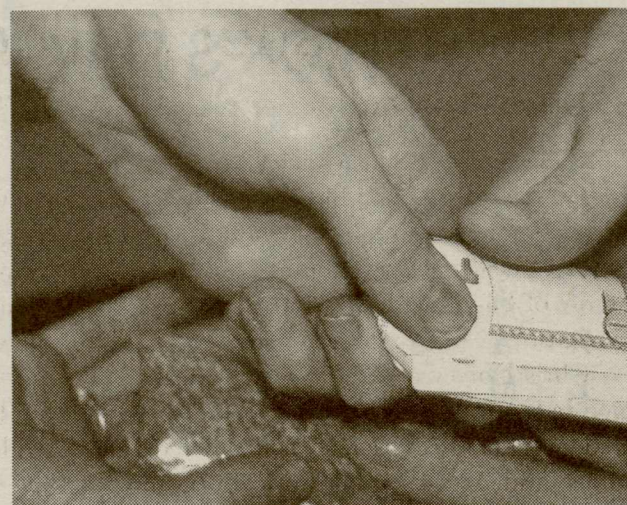


Photo Illustration

Keeping Loaner Fleet Up to Speed

By Nicholas R. Plante

LSC's Maintenance Department has a seven vehicle loan out fleet. New vehicles in the fleet include: one new 12 passenger van and one mini-van said James Gallagher, director of the Maintenance Department.

"We've got a pretty good system. We have a modern fleet. It's pretty up to date," Gallagher said. LSC still has one older 12 passenger van that is scheduled to be replaced next year Gallagher said. The college also plans to lease two other 12 passenger vans in the near future. He said Daimler Chrysler also donated three General Electric Motorcars (GEM) vehicles to LSC. "You can't get quite a whole days use out of them before they run out. They're good for special events or doing errands," Gallagher said. "They're alright but they're not totally practical," Gallagher said. The vehicles run on electricity and only accelerate up to 25mph. The electric cars Gallagher said are registered and inspected for on road use and are practical for use around campus.

The 12 passenger vans cost roughly \$22,000 a piece, and mini-vans cost roughly \$20,000, Gallagher said. The department uses the money allotted in their annual operating budget assigned to replacement vehicles to purchase or lease the new vehicles Gallagher said. He said the operating budget for replacement vehicles this year was around \$45,000. They used most of that money to purchase one new 12 passenger van and one mini-van, Gallagher said. They were purchased to update the vehicle fleet, Gallagher said. The old replaced vehicles are advertised for sale to the public but don't sell for much money, he said.

Gallagher said, his department is responsible for, controlling, cleaning (with work study students), and maintaining all vehicles loaned out to approved drivers.

Members of the LSC community can sign out vehicles for use if they are approved drivers Gallagher said. The vans can be used, by anyone in the LSC community who is an approved driver. They're used for transportation in support of classes, clubs, or sporting events, said Gallagher. He said to be approved as a driver a person's driving record is scanned for major accidents and the individual must take and pass a test administer by the College.

"Our vehicles are well maintained and cleaned regularly," Gallagher said. "These things [vehicles] leave anywhere from 6 to 7 o'clock in the morning in groves. They're gone in the morning and sometimes comeback at night and go out again the next morning. Some times they don't get cleaned because we don't see them. But we try to keep them clean. That's a challenge," Gallagher said.

"Our mechanics work on them [vehicles] and the state inspects them," Gallagher said. The chief mechanic has the authority to redline the vehicles if he thinks something is wrong with them, he said. Most of the maintenance problems are identified by drivers filling out the forms that accompany the vehicle, Gallagher said. He said the department's mechanics perform regular maintenance on the vehicles, but the drivers have more access to the vehicles and play an important part by report any problems they may have noticed.

The Maintenance Department is responsible for an overall campus wide vehicle fleet of 160 vehicles. The loan out fleet make up a small portion of the total fleet, but Gallagher said when replacing vehicles, "Our first emphasis is the vans and keeping them modern."

Start a Club in Five Easy Steps

By Joshua James Gervais

The steps required to start a club at LSC can be found in the Student Handbook (which can be found on the LSC website under the Residence Life quick link), but there is more to starting a club than procedure. Let's assume you want to start a club and go through the different steps of creating a club.

First decide what kind of club you want to start, and what it would do for the greater LSC community. Your club could promote a hobby, bring together students with a particular interest, or champion a cause you find worthy. Make sure that another club isn't already doing what you want your club to do; it's a lot easier to join an existing club than to start a new one yourself.

Once you have a concept for your club answer these two questions: Do you have the time and effort to put into a club and do you think other people would be interested in joining your club. Be honest with yourself about the energy you can set aside for the club; if you can't keep it going all the effort you put into starting will be wasted. It's a good idea to ask around and see if there's any interest both with other students and prospective advisors.

The first official step towards starting a club is getting proper forms from the Student Activities Office and filling them out.

Once you have the forms you are ready to find an advisor and enough people to fill the clubs offices; at the very least a President, House Representative, and Treasurer. Make sure the people you ask to be your advisors know what you're trying to accomplish by forming a club, and how involved you want them to be.

Then write a constitution; the format for a club constitution can be found in the student handbook. This document will be heavily scrutinized; make sure that there aren't any errors in spelling, grammar, or formatting. Errors will reflect poorly on your potential organization, and could hurt your chances of getting your constitution approved.

Submit your finished constitution to the House and Senate for approval. Make fifty copies of your constitution so you'll have a copy for each House Representative and Senator. Be prepared to tell the House Representatives and Senators how your club is useful to the LSC community.

If your constitution is approved you'll need to submit a proposal for a club budget to the House and Senate. Expect to get less money than you ask for; you can do fund raising to supplement your budget. Fund raising also makes your club look better when budgeting for the next academic year.

Creativity from pg 1

administration and other faculty and staff to vote upon the final cover which will be commercially printed. The cover design must meet the needs of the clients, which are faculty and staff and incoming students. Once the final design has been chosen, the students will begin to create the final design. Andy Melvin, a graphic design student, said "It would be a great accomplishment I believe there is so much talent in this years class that it will be hard to decide which is the best suited for the client."

Wireless Internet Arrives on Campus

By Joshua James Gervais

Wireless internet, or Wi-Fi has come to LSC. Students with laptops may now access the internet from many parts of campus.

"We tried to put [wireless internet] in the most public areas," said Ethan Coppenrath, technology support specialist in LSC's information technologies Department. Coppenrath said that wireless internet is currently available in the Library, Student Center, and the smart classroom; as well as parts of the Science Wing, Vail, and the Rita Bole Community Room. He said that they were looking at adding more coverage in the future in HAC and the dining hall.

Coppenrath said that the wireless internet series was installed to, "Support instructors in teaching and students in research." He added that it al-

lowed students to work freely without having to go to computer labs.

Coppenrath said that students could print from any printer on campus through the school's print server and that they would like to have the network open to the public but security was also a factor. If information technologies takes steps to increase security on the wireless internet access student may loose access to the printers.

Many laptops now have wireless capability built-in; it is also possible to buy devices that add wireless functionality to a computer.

Coppenrath said that the network supports all three major standards of wireless internet: 802.11a, 802.11b, and 801.11g.

.....Sports.....

Men's Hornets Lose Conference Final to Fisher College

By Dillon Eliassen

The Lyndon State College Men's Hornets basketball team lost their Sunrise Conference championship game against the Fisher College Falcons at home February 27 by a score of 83-70, ending their season with a 22-6 record.

Chris Dorsey and Brad Durr led the LSC men in scoring, each netting 21 points in their final game of the season. Tanner Pryce hit 14 points, and Alex Ibey helped keep the boards clear with 10 rebounds.

LSC advanced to the championship game after winning their semi-final conference game against the University of Maine-Fort Kent Bengals. The Hornets edged out the Bengals 78-71, with Pryce nailing four three-point shots to make him the game's leading scorer with 22 points. Dorsey contributed 18 points, 11 rebounds, and 7 assists in the Hornets victory over the Bengals.

LSC's last regular game of the season was at home against Green Mountain College, on February 19. Led by Durr and Ryan Somers who both had 11 points, the Hornets trounced the Eagles 79-58. Kali Stoddard-Imari collected 14 rebounds while Dorsey passed out 8 assists.

The day before, LSC hosted the University of Maine at Machias. Dorsey was the game's leading scorer with 22 points, but it wasn't enough against the Clippers, who defeated the Hornets 58-67. Durr added 14 points and Ibey 10, while Pryce and Ibey pulled down 6 rebounds each.

The Hornets spent the weekend of February 11-12 in Maine, playing Fort Kent on Saturday, and the University of Maine at Presque Isle on Sunday. Dorsey's triple double (13 points, 11 rebounds, and 10 assists) led the Hornets in their 79-71 win over the Fort Kent Bengals. Durr was LSC's high scorer with 17 points and 10 rebounds, while Brent Fowler chipped in with 14 points.

Sunday's game against Presque Isle featured 10 players on LSC's squad scoring points against the Owls. Led by Somers with 15 points, Durr and Dorsey with 13 points each, and Michael Paul netting 11 points, the Hornets flew by the Owls 80-73. Ibey pulled down 10 rebounds, and Durr and Stoddard-Imari claimed nine rebounds each.

On February 8, LSC hosted Fisher College, defeating the Falcons 88-79. Pryce led the Hornets to victory with 33 points, and Fowler contributed 14 points. Ibey hit 10 points and cleared 14 rebounds, while Dorsey added 16 points and 10 assists.

LSC buried the Johnson State College Badgers at home on February 9. Dorsey racked up 19 points and 10 assists, Pryce netted 14 points, and Durr added 10 more in the Hornets 89-70 win over JSC.

After the conclusion of the men's basketball season, several LSC players were awarded Sunrise Conference honors. Dorsey was named to the All-Sunrise Conference First Team, Pryce and Durr made the All-Sunrise Conference Second Team, and Paul was named a Sunrise Conference Scholar Athlete.

Lady Hornets Lose in Championship

By Dillon Eliassen

The Lyndon State College girls basketball team end their season at 18-10, after a heartbreaking 49-56 loss to the University of Maine at Fort Kent during the Sunrise Conference Tournament championship game. Co-captains Nichole Arel and Alicia Shedd had 20 points and eight points, respectively. Sara Fetterhoff had 10 rebounds.

LSC advanced to the Sunrise Conference Finals after defeating the College of St. Joseph's in the semi-finals. In the Hornets victory over St. Joe's Saints, Whitney Hoyt had 21 points, Fetterhoff netted 14 points, and Shedd added 11 points. Arel also had 11 points, with 11 assists.

Three players from LSC are all-stars. Arel and Shedd were both named to the All-Sunrise Conference First Team, and Hoyt made the Second Team. Lyndsay Calkins and Kagan Prouty were named All-Sunrise Conference Scholar Athletes.

Editor

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Softball Team Goes to Florida for Spring Season Training

By Dillon Eliassen

The Lyndon State College softball team spent their Winter Break in Florida, training for the 2006 season by physically conditioning and playing scrimmage games against other colleges.

"We'll be able to get outside and practice for our season," Head Coach Leigh Chamberlain said. Due to winter weather, both the LSC softball and baseball teams didn't get the chance to practice outside until just before the season started. Some of the southern New England colleges that the Hornets will be playing will have an advantage as they have been able to begin practicing outside earlier.

Two of the schools the Hornets played were Bethel College from Mishawaka, Indiana, and Oakland Community College from Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. The games did not count for LSC's record this season, but they affect their opposing team's records.

Last year, Oakland Community College placed seventh in a national junior college softball tournament. "They're good competition for us," Chamberlain said. "Playing them helps us see what we're made of."

Next year LSC leaves the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) for the more prestigious and more competitive National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). To prepare the LSC softball team for the higher level of play, Chamber-

lain said he wants the Hornets to play tougher opponents. "We're trying to play better teams to attract better student athletes," he said.

Chamberlain hopes that by playing tougher and more popular teams the Hornets will become a better team, and LSC will gain some exposure at a more national level and hopefully draw more talented athletes to enroll here.

Chamberlain said the softball team will rely on small ball and the basics to win games this season. "I'm pretty much a fundamentalist," he said. "If you do small things consistently well, then you'll win ball games."

Chamberlain is counting on the leadership of co-captains Jennifer Kirchoff, Becky Armstrong, and Liz Braley, and for returning pitchers Ashley Ireland and Josie Pateneau to throw well for the Hornets to be successful this season.

"I'm extremely optimistic about this season," Chamberlain added. "We've got a good group of girls; I think we'll be a pretty good ball club this year."

The Hornets season opener is against Russell Sage College April 1.

The LSC Hornets were the Sunrise Conference champions last season, with a record of 22-10, and going 10-1 against conference teams. During the Sunrise Conference annual awards ceremony for the

2005 season, Kirchoff was named Sunrise Conference Player of the Year, and Armstrong won Rookie of the Year, and was an NAIA All-American Scholar-Athlete. Chamberlain was named Sunrise Conference Coach of the Year.

This is Chamberlain's third full year as head coach, and the fifth year he has been involved in coaching the softball team. Both of his daughters are coaching assistants and LSC alumni. "My daughters grew up on the softball field," Chamberlain said.

This Seasons Roster

Erica Kelleher, OF

Jennifer Kirchoff, SS/3B

Becky Armstrong, SS/2B

Angel Phelps, OF

Ariana Massimilla, C/1B

Amy Hopkins, OF

Liz Braley, C/3B

Josie Pateneau, P

Erica Fuller, IF

Ashley Taylor, OF

Lindsey Duggento, OF

Kelly Warren, OF/1B

Karri Johnson, OF

Nicole Bathalon, 2B

Ashley Ireland, P

Money and Experience: A lot to Gain From Internships

By Nicholas R. Plante

Statistical survey responses from former LSC students who took part in an internship during their enrollment at LSC, shows a positive relationship to a successful career path.

According to the LSC 2004 Graduate Survey Report, 69 percent or 49 out of 71 graduates surveyed confirm that their internships while attending LSC positively affected their employment. Linda Wacholder, LSC's director of Career Services, said certain degree programs require students to partake in an internship and other programs offer

them as electives. Wacholder said students first work with their advisors to ensure eligibility and brainstorm what internship possibilities are available.

According to LSC's Internship Manual for Students and Employers, "All students with sophomore standing, a 2.0 grade-point average and at least one semester at LSC are eligible to participate in department sponsored internships." The manual points out that certain departments have additional requirements and all internships bear credit and are usually graded.

Wacholder said if a student needs help finding internship ideas they can contact her at the Career Services office. "We have a new job posting system called LSC connections, and I'm making conservative efforts so internships appear on that," Wacholder said. "That system is available 24/7."

Once the internship is initiated the student then works with the faculty member to develop learning objectives. "I serve more of an administrative function. I make sure the paper flows correctly," Wacholder said. "I don't have

any involvement with grading. I do trouble shooting if an internship isn't working out."

All paperwork for an internship can be found online on the Career Services section of the LSC website under quick-links. Students should schedule an appointment with Career Services if interested in an internship sooner rather than later because some internships are competitive and have deadlines, Wacholder said.

Local High Schools Programming Exceeds LSC in Recycling

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

"Recycling at LSC isn't good enough," Kurt Heinchon, a sophomore Environmental Science major, said. Heinchon wants to form a club that would implement a recycling program at LSC that would not only help the environment but save the college money.

Heinchon got the idea from the courses he is taking at LSC. Several factors played into his decision: a waste audit that was done in 2002 by a science class that found LSC only receives 8 percent of its waste materials. Paul Tomasi, Director of North East Kingdom Waste Management, and part time faculty members also helped with his cause.

Heinchon has formed a small committee of faculty and students to study the recycling programs at: Lyndon Institute and St. Johnsbury Academy. After looking at the two schools' recycling programs, Heinchon hopes to form an effective plan that can be implemented at LSC, Heinchon said.

Initially the plan will only focus on the recycling of paper materials on campus. LSC currently spends \$17,000 per year on paper, Heinchon said. Part of the reason recycling at LSC is so poor is that people are jaded by the idea of recycling. "They

hear about it all of the time," Heinchon said. The idea is to make people see recycling as a money saver. Part of the reason recycled materials are so expensive is because of the low demand. Using more recycled material would increase demand and thus lower the cost of recycling, Heinchon said.

The club Heinchon seeks to create is actually the revival of an older club that went dormant after its members graduated, Heinchon said. The new club will involve faculty members who will be around longer than students thus ensuring the clubs continued activity on campus, Heinchon said. Recruiting efforts for the club will be aimed at freshmen and sophomores although anyone is welcome to join. Certain INT classes may also get to view a PowerPoint presentation on the subject, Heinchon said.

The plan is for the club to start up at the beginning of the fall 2006 semester, Heinchon said. The clubs first project is to improve paper recycling on campus but the clubs second task may turn out to be the recycling of organic waste following the completion of a compost center in Lyndonville, Heinchon said.

Emails About Dr. So and So Annoying You, Well Check This Out...

By Katie Barrett

So how many of you have seen those e-mails in your inbox reading, come meet Dr. So and So and never go because you don't think it's important? Well next time before you go and delete that e-mail, check it out. Those e-mails, the ones you keep on deleting that get sent around, well there actually informational. Currently there are five searches going on looking for the right person to come and become a faculty member. Hope you guys that are deleting those e-mails are not in the Television Studies, Education, Political Science, or History field, because those e-mails, yea, well they are for the next teacher in your department. Why not go meet them? Find out if you think they are right for LSC.

Every time a faculty position needs to be filled here at LSC, there is a post of the open position posted internally through the Vermont School System (VSC) about the open position. Postings are also put on to the school website, and advertisements. For those who are teachers already looking for jobs, the school posts to the Chronicle of Higher Education. So each time these are posted they are being looked at by your potential teacher. Lyndon State reaches and average of 30 plus applicants for faculty positions in the past year. Some years have even been up to 100 applicants. That's a lot of your potential teachers.

After all the posting and advertisements have been sent out, and interests roll in, the school puts together a search committee, which are generally a faculty representative from the department, a faculty member(s) outside the department and students. These are the people who will go back and tell the president who they like and who they didn't, who will work, and who won't work. So why not be on these committees? Before these potential teachers have sent in the applications, the applications are narrowed down, and a few candidates are chosen, and receive phone interviews. During the phone interview the potential candidate is asked to come to visit the college for a final on campus interview. This process varies depending on the time frame and how many candidates are being viewed to complete the entire process.

"Sometimes it's quick, and sometimes from the time of advertisement, it can take anywhere from three to six to even seven months, depending on the search before a candidate is chosen," John Kascenka, Dean of Academic Affairs said. So here's the propositions, go to one of these meetings and find out who you want to teach your class. Learn about them, figure out what might make them work, and see if you think they will be one of the teachers you want to wake up every morning for because you have so much fun in there class you don't want to miss it "Our goal is to find and identify a candidate that will fit the college and will fit well." Kascenka said.

So why not, maybe one day one of you might be in this boat. Not everyone will be, but here are some things to think about if you ever decided that maybe one day you might want to teach at Lyndon. First off, if you're thinking about becoming a teacher, you have one more stop before you can, and that stop is; graduate school. Anyone interested in becoming a faculty member at LSC must first get there graduate degree, or be in the process of completing their degree. However there are in some cases where students who have graduated from LSC will be asked to teach a class, or be here for a semester. However this is very seldom and is mainly used in special circumstances. If a position does open up say in the admissions office, or a staff position it's not rare that a student will be able to find a position here at LSC.

So next time before you go and start deleting those e-mails, think again. Like I've said before, these could be your potential teachers. The ones you'll remember for the rest of your lives. They are the ones who are going to make you want to get up in the morning, to show up for class even though the class starts at dawn, and you partied the night before. These are the people who are going to help change your life, so why not, take a chance, step out on a limb, and stop deleting those e-mails and check these people out.



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FREE!

Stolen VSC Laptop Creates Identity Theft Scare

By Mary Wheeler with reporting By Josh Gervais

A laptop computer containing personal files of students and faculty in the Vermont State College system dating back to 2000 was stolen during a vehicle break-in on February 28, according to a March 21 email from Karrin Wilks, Vice President of Academic and Strategic Planning for the VSC.

The laptop was in use by an Information Technology staff member at the time of the incident, according to Linda Hilton, Chief Information Officer to the VSC. Hilton said that the vehicle had been locked and unattended for approximately 45 minutes, before the windows were smashed, and the laptop, which was out of visible sight, was stolen. Along with the laptop, personal items belonging to the individual, including a check book were also taken; however no one to date has tried accessing the checking account, Hilton said.

Once notified of the occurrence, VSC officials and Information Technology staff took immediate action to block the network access and increase technology security.

Some of the files contained personal emails, social security numbers, and payroll information of students and faculty. According to the email, the laptop couldn't be accessed without a password, and no passwords were stored in the system. Without a password, unauthorized individuals were hindered from viewing the files, however as a security precaution, all passwords associated with the laptop were changed.

"It's an unfortunate incident, but we feel confident that no one will be able to gain access to this information," LSC President, Carol Moore, said. "We don't believe there will be any repercussions, as we are reviewing our security policies to keep it from happening again."

"There are some serious problems with that information being out there," English Professor and former Director of IT, Richard Moye, said. "All they have to do is take out the hard drive and put it in another notebook."

"I'm surprised that information of that nature was on a laptop and taken off campus," Ernest Broadwater, Professor of Education and President of the Vermont State Colleges Faculty Federation, said. "I'd also like to know why all of us were informed three weeks after the event." Broadwater said that the Faculty Federation has contacted their attorney to, "see what measures the Vermont State Colleges have taken to protect the employees now that this data is out." Broadwater continued, "they need to make sure they can prevent it happening in the future."

"I was surprised to hear that kind of information was on somebody's laptop and that it wasn't secured," Timothy Sturm, Professor of Education, said. He added that someone should look into how the Vermont State Colleges are handling security.

An anonymous letter was placed in the faculty mailboxes on Thursday March 23 calling for a vote of no confidence in the chancellor because of the in-

cident. "The Chancellor's office once again has zero credibility. Please consider a vote of no confidence in the Chancellor as you change and secure your personal and financial information," the letter read. The author's reasons for wanting a vote of no confidence included how the information about the stolen laptop wasn't released until three weeks after it happened, and how the incident shows the Vermont State Colleges in a negative light.

Students Unsafe at VTC

By Nicole Miner

Last October it was discovered that an employee of Vermont Technical College mistakenly posted 1,100 students personal information on a public website. Such information as social security numbers, addresses, ethnicities and SAT scores were placed on the public website. The incident was discovered when a former student put their name into google. The information had been posted on a public website for two years. "Nothing has come of it yet," Mike Dente, Head of IT, said. Dente also said that LSC is the only Vermont State College that still uses personal web space. "We probably won't in the future," Dente said. Personal web space is not used often at LSC. All 1,100 students were informed of the security breach and VTC is offering more computer training to their employees.

Rising Students Receive Recognition from Lyndon State Faculty

Crystal Johnson

On March 23, Lyndon State College acknowledged students that maintained a 3.0 Grade Point average and excelled in their field of study. The Rising Student Awards Ceremony was held in the Alexander Twilight Theater and allowed faculty and peers to congratulate other students that were being recognized for their academics.

The ceremony began with Dr. Donna Dalton, Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, saying, "We pause to celebrate and congratulate students for their hard work." After a short speech, Dalton handed the podium over to President Carol Moore, who talked briefly about how important these honorees are to not only the college, but to themselves. When discussing briefly the tasks that students find set before them, President Moore said of the honorees, "[They] have met the challenges our faculty has put before them."

After a brief introduction, Harry Swett, Mailroom Supervisor and comedian, gave a heartwarming speech but warned students also about how fragile life really is. He instructed students to "keep a tool box with them at all times." Inside this toolbox, he ad-

vised students that one tool was most important. "Attitude - Keep it sharp, use it daily and don't let it rust," Swett said. Another tool that is equally important was humor. "Humor isn't designed to solve all the problems in life, but it is grease for the wheels."

A few of the scholarship awards being presented were the Robert E. Long Scholarship, The H. Franklin Irwin Scholarship, The Louise Daniels Human Services Scholarship, and the Vermont Association of Broadcasters Scholarship.

Students being honored for their academic achievements were: Jamie Kinnarney, Roderic Knights, Richard Maliawco, Jr., Tonia McKenzie, Megan Mercia, Jenny Miller, Jessica Millhiser, Karen Murray, Kerri Nelson, Jaimie Owen, Bonnie Paris, Josee Patenaude, J. Matthew Picard, Stephanie Pinto, Kelly Potter, Richard Putnam, Rachel Robillard, Stephanie Rose, Gail Rugles, Corinne Sackett, Linda Sherman, Rebecca Simpson, Stephanie Slade, Marshall Stoner, Diane Tanguay, Ashley Ward, Kelly Warren, Mary Wheeler, Jeremy S. White, and Kerrin Wilmarth.



Photographed above left to right: Kerrin Wilmarth, Kerri Nelson, Stephanie Rose, Hallie Chouinard, Kevin Jacobson.
Photograph By Tim Lewis

Emergency Meeting of WWLR Fills in Gaps.

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

WWLR held an emergency mandatory meeting on Thursday (March 16). Among the items on the agenda was the reading of former General Manager's and Co-Music Director's resignation letters by Jeremy Lacey, the new General Manager of WWLR. Kerri Nelson, who had been the General Manager of WWLR resigned from the position citing personal, financial and moral reasons, according to her resignation letter. Stephanie Rose, former Co-Music Manager also resigned for personal reasons, according to her resignation letter.

An earlier article in the Critic reported that the resignations caused some difficulties in WWLR and the Campus Activities Board's (CAB) co-funding of speaker, Barry Drake. CAB had asked WWLR to sponsor Drake for \$2600. WWLR held a directors meeting with Nelson and Rose voting in abstention. There was some controversy over the validity of that meeting. Tyler Cleverly, a WWLR member, said. Mark Hilton, advisor to WWLR, refused to sign the check for Drake because there had been no formal voting by the WWLR directors, Hilton said.

Melissa Sturtevant, President of CAB, then made a short presentation explaining how CAB had come to ask for the \$2600 for Drake. Sturtevant then revoked CAB's request for \$2600.

WWLR also elected a new Music Director. Out of the seven nominees, Vinny Petrarca was elected as the new Music Director. Adam Tracy now holds the new position of country music director and was elected in as well. WWLR is still in need of a Business Director, Lacey said. The position of Business Director is not vital to the club and so would be dealt with during a regular meeting, Lacey said.

The WWLR executive board also explained how the gaps in management had been filled according to rules of their constitution. "In the event of resignation or dismissal of a member of management during

the academic year, the empty position shall be filled at the discretion of the executive management." Article four, section A, line nine of WWLR's constitution states. WWLR also has plans to add the position of Production Manager into its constitution, Lacey said.

WWLR also explained its budget breakdown to its members. WWLR needs \$1000 for its telephone bills according to a handout given to members at the meeting. WWLR seeks to reallocate the \$1000 from its engineering budget. WWLR also needed to reallocate money to fees and licensing according to the handout.



LSC Nurses the Community

By Tabitha Fitzgerald

LSC is often credited with having a nursing program. Nursing students can be seen throughout campus in their scrubs. Nursing classes can be seen in progress in the basement of Vail. There is even a full time faculty member devoted to the program. But these students are not LSC students. People enrolled in the nursing program are actually Castleton State College (CSC) students.

Students may begin their pre-nursing classes at LSC, but after that they are transferred to Castleton to finish their degrees, John Kascenska, Associate Dean of Academics, said. This transfer isn't physical, it is all done electronically, Daisy McCoy, Former facilitator of the nursing program, said. CSC controls all of their financial aid and all of their paperwork, McCoy said. Castleton also provides all of the money that goes into the program, all LSC does is provide the space necessary for the classes, Kascenska said.

Until recently, all of the classes on the LSC campus were broadcast live from Castleton and watched via Virtual Image Technology (VIT) in the LSC classroom. Now with the addition of Cindy Martindill, that has changed a little, Kascenska said. Martindill also teaches a few classes at LSC that are broadcast to Castleton. It also allows the nursing students at LSC have face to face contact and have someone to go to for help, Kascenska said.

The nursing program seems to be completely separate from LSC, but it directly affects the community.

Until LSC implemented the nursing program, the closest Vermont school that offered it was CSC. This left students in the Northeast Kingdom a little alienated. "Many don't have the option of moving or traveling back and forth to Castleton every day, so this is the only way," says McCoy. But the program's effect has been more wide spread then just students. "Our having this program on our site has been a God send to our locals," Kascenska said. Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital (NVRH) is very supportive of the program. Students perform clinical work there, and they are one of the biggest employers of the program's graduates, Kascenska said. Many other clinics and nursing homes have been glad to hire the program's graduates as well, McCoy said.

The nursing program began on the LSC site in 2001. While all of the classes are held at LSC, the graduation is not. Students enrolled in the program receive their degrees at a Castleton graduation ceremony. As of now there have been three classes that have graduated from the LSC site, Kascenska said. Even though these nursing program graduates may not be typical LSC students their expertise is benefiting the Lyndon and surrounding communities.

Residential Life Looking For RA's

By Katie Barrett

It's that time of year again when the search begins to find new Resident Assistants for the next school year. Each year the Residential Life Staff sends out information to all students asking if anyone wants to be a Resident Assistant. The process takes about two months, starting when applications go out in the middle of March and ends when the final letters are sent out in April.

Each student who is interested in becoming a RA (Resident Assistant) must have a grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher and must not fall below a 2.0 in any given semester. Students must get three letters of recommendation from faculty and staff members around campus, and must return the filled out application no later than March 27, 2006. All the current RAs who wish to be an RA next year, must go through the re-application process.

Each year the amounts of applications received are varied. "Last year we had about twenty-five applicants, this year so far we've had about twenty," Jonathan Cheney, Resident Hall Director, said. There are currently four definite open positions with a possibility of six total new positions open.

Becoming a RA takes a lot of time and effort; students must live on campus, and only receive 14 nights off each semester, weekends included. All time off must be talked about and must have prior approval from a Residence Hall Director. Students who are chosen to become an RA will have their room and board waived from their tuition. No additional jobs are to be held without permission. This is because of the time that is required. All RA's will be tested on all policies and regulations as found in the student handbook, residential life staff manual and college catalog.

Being involved on campus is a great way to get to know the other students, and becoming a RA can have its benefits too. "It's a great job, for me it changed my life, so it can be a life changing experience," Cheney said. All RA's will have learned and will have leadership qualities, and a better understanding of how to deal with certain situations at any time.

During the RA application process students who wish to apply will go through individual interviews and a group night. All letters will be sent out on April 17, 2006 and will be placed in student mail boxes.

With any leadership position that is held here on campus there is a lot of time and work put into any position. The outcome of any leadership position is highly looked upon by future employers.

Editorials

Wanting to Move Away

By Katie Barrett

Recently I have found the process of moving off campus very annoying. While most students like the comfort of not having to pay bills other than the minor car insurance, cell phone, and buying food, many others are ready to be on their own. I have been at Lyndon for four years now, and being a senior living in the resident halls, I feel it is my right to make the decision as to when it is the right time for me to be on my own. I recently had a meeting with Jonathan Davis, Head of Residential Life, and asked him to give me permission to move off campus. His response was that he was not going to approve any more off campus moves for the semester. Now this doesn't seem like such a big deal, but the thing that I do not understand is why? Now when I had my meeting with Jonathan Davis, there was no real reason as to why he would not approve me to move off campus but the place that I was looking into living for a the time being was going to be available to me next year. Now I understand his stand point on this situation, but the main issue is that there was no real reason as to why his decision was made. We all as students know and have been told millions of times that the goal here at Lyndon State College is to see students succeed. Now, if a student lives on campus, and is having a hard time completing homework, and finding the motivation to go to classes, and do the work, I can see there being an issue with that said student moving off campus. However when students find it easier to complete the work that is needed to be completed in order to succeed, it seems to make more sense to allow that student to move off campus. I understand that we pay to live on campus, but why live there if we are more successful off campus? We as students pay for our education, we pay to live on campus, so why can't we pay to live off campus if it leads us to be more successful?

Sympathy for the Smoker

By Joshua James Gervais

LSC doesn't think much of its students—at least the ones that smoke. To provide shelter for students smoking outside in the harsh Vermont weather, the school provides a gazebo. A gazebo has no walls to block out the wind, its roof only barely keeps out snow or rain, and it does nothing to combat the cold—its poor excuse for shelter. In addition the ash boxes the students are suppose to use are constantly catching on fire, and the smoking lounge, where students could smoke indoor on campus, only exists as a memory.

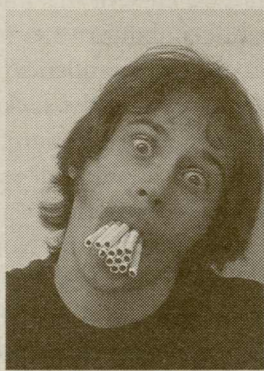
I'm not a smoker, but I've spent a lot of time outside the student center where there are often people smoking. The smokers have always been friendly and polite even though I don't smoke, but many of the non-smokers I know have been far less than kind when talking about smokers. What the school shouldn't do is make the students decision for them. The days of colleges acting in *loca parentis* are over. A college has no right to tell its students that they can't smoke, and there is no justification for making the campus so unfriendly towards smokers that it amounts to coercion.

LSC has a responsibility to safeguard the health of those students that wish to not smoke and they also help student that want to stop smoking, but the school should also make accommodations for those students that do smoke through out the year. The campus needs a places where students can smoke even when the weather is bad, and adequate containers for their ashes—containers that won't catch on fire.

Is it too much to ask for a little sympathy for the plight of the smoker without trying to change them or attack them? They don't try to pressure nonsmokers to start smoking (at least not seriously), and they're no ignorant of the effects cigarette smoke has on their bodies. Let's all take a step into the adult world, and let people chart their own course in life.

Ding Dongs & Goofballs

Bush Advisors Stay On Target



By Dillon Eliassen

For this issue's column I decided to do some hard hitting political commentary, so The Critic flew me down to Washington D.C. where I was supposed to interview student interns who work at the U.S. Department of Education. However, when I first got outside the terminal, an out of breath bald guy in a suit approached me, telling me that a lottery ticket he bought last night had won, and he showed me the results in the newspaper. He said he didn't have time to collect because had to catch a flight, but the ticket was a \$600 winner and he offered to sell it to me. I only had \$200 on me, but he said he'd take it because he'd need it to buy a bus ticket from the airport to the small town outside of Cincinnati where he was from. You see, his mother was dying, and her last wish when they talked over the telephone 3 days ago was to see her son one last time. I used the rest of my cash to take a taxi into town. I stopped at a convenience store to collect on my lottery ticket, but the man behind the counter said it was not good. We argued and I left to go to another store to get my six hundred bucks.

Four convenience stores later, I was still broke. I had been scammed out of my cash, and all I had going for me was my hotel reservation, conveniently paid for with Critic funds. I checked in, and was in my room about 40 minutes when the phone rang. It was my contact from the Department of Education, saying they were really sorry, but they had to cancel. In less than 3 hours I was left without any money, and no interview.

When I got home I checked my mailbox and found my copy of the new issue of "Newsweek." While leafing through it, I came across a pretty interesting story. On February 9, Claude Allen resigned his job as a domestic policy advisor

for President George "Duuuuuuuhhhhy" Bush, saying he wanted to spend more time with his family. He better spend a lot of quality time with his family in their new \$958,300 house for the next couple of months, because he might not be able to see them for a while, like possibly 15 years.

Allen was arrested by Montgomery County, Maryland, police in the beginning of March for shoplifting from Target and Hecht's department stores. He is charged with stealing over \$5000 of merchandise from October 2005 to January 2, 2006. On January 2 Allen was stopped by security at a Target department after running his game, and was given a misdemeanor citation by police, but not arrested until a few weeks ago.

Allen's game was to go into a store, pick out some merchandise, buy it, with his credit card, and put it in his car. Then he would return to the store, pick out the same items and bring them to the return counter and asked for a refund using the receipt he had from his previous items. This was a scam I watched run by junkies on an HBO dopeumentary, "Dope Sick Love." The only difference is the junkies rummaged through diapers and Kleenex in the garbage looking for receipts.

Allen has only been arrested for, and not yet convicted of theft, but he has been captured on video running this classic short con. No explanation was given by Allen, who made \$161,000 a year while working for Bush, about why he was pulling a Winona Ryder. I wonder what's next for the Bush Administration, Karl Rove hustling tourists at Three Card Monty? Maybe Department of Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta can scare up some money for the nation's highways by stepping in front of a slow moving car and faking an injury to con the guilt-ridden driver out of some money.

This stupid scandal might not be such a bad thing for Bush; he can use this screw-up to take some of the heat off himself. Usually a head of state only has to get his country involved in a war to get his approval ratings up, but Bush's not so great handling of Operation Get Iraqi Oil is a major reason why

he's not doing too well in the polls. Saddam "This Hole Isn't So Bad When You Get Used To It" Hussein has been removed from power, a good thing, but no weapons of mass destruction were found (I still don't see how yellow-cake uranium could be so bad, it sounds too delicious to be dangerous), and Osama bin Laden, the initial reason the American military was in the Middle East, is still at large.

Since starting another war is out of the question, Bush needs some other way to distract the American public. Since he announced his candidacy for his first term, many jokes have been made about Bush not being so bright, not to mention probably not the smartest President ever. The fact is he makes Dan Quayle look like Plato. I'm sure he's tired of being the butt of jokes on late-night talk shows. But, now with Allen's goof, and Vice President Dick Cheney accidentally shooting his friend while bird hunting, Bush isn't looking as stupid as he used to.

Of course, having a bunch of idiots working for you is probably not the greatest idea in the world. 17th century political philosopher Matthew T. Wojcik, a contemporary of John Locke and Thomas Jefferson, wrote in his political classic, *The Single Most Important Things About Governing the People*. "The principles of a king's reign can only be as strong as the morality of his advisors." Wojcik was right when he said a ruler needs his counselors to be moral, and not rip off department stores for laundry detergent and tube socks. Did Allen not think he was going to get caught? Murderers, gangsters and bank robbers get arrested and convicted from forensic evidence and wiretaps, and a man working for the President gets caught stealing from Target. When I started this article I thought I had to watch out for strangers with too-good-to-be-true schemes, but now I'm watching out for anyone I've seen standing next to Bush on T.V. Only in America.

Editorials.....

Sold Out, Try Another Selection, Sold Out

By Katie Barrett

So there you are, sitting in your room, or lounge, or friends room doing homework when all of the sudden you look to see what time it is and realize your hungry and the food in your room doesn't seem too appetizing. So you find your shoes and throw them on and search for any loose change. Then it's off to the vending machines you go. Your stomach growling, your mouth waters and the only thing you want is a candy bar and a bag of chips. Finally as you step closer you can hear the hum of the machines, and the lights drawing you in. You dig out your change from your pocket and slowly start to place the coins into the slot. YES! It's taken your change, but wait... the counter tells you that you haven't put anything in. Your first reaction; scream, your second reaction is to shake the machine until something falls out away from those black little coils that keep that junk food goodness in place. After a few minutes of beating up the vending machine it's either suffer with the third choice soda because everything else was sold out, or you go back to your room and figure out who's driving to Cumberland Farms.

Around campus there are vending machines located in the fourth and second floor of Vail, a Soda machine located over near the television station, and located in every resident hall lounge. There are several machines on campus which just disperse soda. Many students get things from the vending machines when they need a quick snack before they go home for lunch or dinner, while others take advantage of the vending machines to go junk food crazy.

As many students know, student ID's only allow access to the resident hall that the student is living in. When the vending machines are broken in the resident hall that the student lives in, often times students will either just give up, or even some brave hungry souls will find another student to let them into a building so that they can still gain access for students to use. "It would be cool if they fixed the vending machines so we don't have to go to another building," student, Molly Davis, said. The vending machines often get broken by students



One of many broken vending machines here on campus.
Photograph By Nicole Miner

trying to put in too much change at the same time or become jammed with wrinkled-up dollar bills, which causes a back up and does not allow the change button to work causing money to stay put in the coin slot. Other times students do not realize that because the vending machine is not taking change, that it is because it is broken, but many times the vending machine is just too full and can not take anymore money that is put into the machine. Other times vending

machines get moved, when people shake the machine which can lead to damages in gears or even the protective glass.

The other thing that seems to be an issue is prices. "The price in the soda machines [\$1.00 for soda, \$1.50 for fruit juice] is fine. The only complaint I have is over the fact that in the new resident hall, the Rita Bole Complex their soda machines are all \$1.50, regardless of whether I'm buying soda or juice. Why is this? It seems pretty ridiculous. You get the same size soda/drink as you do from all the other vending machines on campus. The only difference appears to be the size of the selection buttons, they're like huge, almost possibly handicap sized. The snack machine prices seem kind of steep to me though," student Jeremy Lacey, said. The choices that are placed into the machines are based off of what the company supplies, but if there are special requests, requests can be made to Jonathan Davis, Head of Residential Life.

When a student comes across a vending machine that is broken they are asked to go and talk to the Student Affairs Office during business hours. "They [students] should be prepared with information including the exact location of the machine, the exact amount lost and whether or not the machine made any unique noises, etc. All this information will speed up reimbursements and repair." Said Jonathan Davis. Students can also call the numbers located on the stickers on the front of the machines. Pepsi number is 1-800-4-PEPSI-1. Pepsi handles all soda machines on campus. For the other vending machines, which are handled by North Country Vending, their number is 1-802-748-8057. Students are also asked to talk to

Jonathan Davis, Head of Residential Life. So the next time you are craving a snack, and head to the vending machine, and the machine is broken, contact someone. Let your RA or RHD be informed, and if you would like students can call Elaine Turner, who will be able to help you with any change "eaten" by the vending machine or even get you a refund.

The Critic Wants YOU!

The Critic is currently looking for motivated students
To fill the following positions:

Cartoonist
Game Creator
Entertainment Reporter
Photographer
News Reporter

If you are interested in working for the Critic please contact:

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Letter Policy: The Critic welcomes letters and opinions. All letters must be signed and include the author's phone number and address. The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

Letters

The Critic

LSC Box 7951

Lyndonville, VT 05851

.....Fun Page.....

MUD SEASON WORD SEARCH

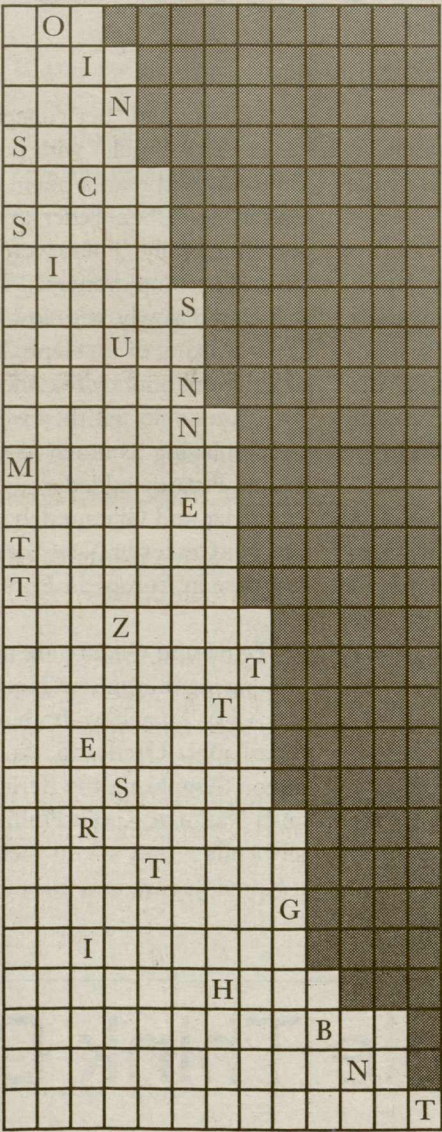
A	F	R	E	S	H	A	I	R	W	V
N	L	B	B	O	P	L	J	B	O	D
I	A	X	O	P	A	N	D	U	O	H
M	T	V	F	O	R	W	I	M	D	A
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L	R	O	X	Y	Y	S	T	S	A	N
S	A	U	M	U	D	K	Y	M	T	I
R	F	R	T	H	A	W	C	G	R	D
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M	R	E	F	D	I	T	W	E	K	M
I	N	E	C	A	R	H	A	R	T	S
N	O	L	T	J	E	I	S	L	M	P
G	O	E	K	Q	S	N	H	R	O	S
W	N	R	F	R	I	E	N	D	S	T
V	S	F	L	O	O	D	I	N	G	R

The words go horizontal, vertical, backwards, forwards and diagonally. Good Luck

- ANIMALSROAMING
BOOTS
BUMPS
CARHARTS
CARWASH
DIRTY
FLOODING
FOURWHEELER
FRESHAIR
FRIENDS
FUN
LATERAFTERNOONS
MUD
MUDDING
PARTY
THAW
TIRES
TRUCK
WET
WOODS

Weather Puzzle

- Clouds in contact with the ground
Sizes: pea, marble, golf ball, tennis ball, or larger
Water vapor that condenses and falls as liquid precipitation
Ice crystal formed during precipitation in freezing temperatures
A chinook is a warm, dry wind, especially from the _____ Mountains
Unstable atmosphere usually with high winds and precipitation
Breeze, gale, zephyr, and squall are names for _____
White, wispy, high altitude clouds
Visible water vapor in the atmosphere
Weather is greatly affected by the _____ or time of the year
A storm system rotating about an area of low pressure
Heavy seasonal winds bringing heavy rain to southern Asia
Loud sound following a lightning flash
A funnel-shaped vortex of high winds common in the Central U.S
The name for a hurricane that occurs in the western Pacific Ocean
A winter storm system with blowing snow and low visibility
Check the _____ to see if it will rain tomorrow
It's not heat, it's the _____
Weather event with rain freezing upon contact with the ground
Areas of high _____ tend to provide fair weather by diverting storms
A tropical cyclone with sustained winds over 74 mph
Narrow, high altitude westerly wind affecting weather patterns
Flash of light emitted when atmospheric electricity is discharged
Device for measuring the amount of precipitation that has fallen
The protective layer of gases that covers the earth's surface
Type of thunderstorm clouds rising to altitudes of 50, 000 feet
The leading edge of an advancing storm system
Term for a scientist who studies the weather



Fill in the words

Horoscopes

By Madame Divine

- Aries-* March 21-April 19: It is mud season again! Put on your galoshes and go have fun. Get dirty. Don't take everything so seriously, think before reacting.
Taurus- April 20-May 20: Stressed out with so many decisions to make, take a second and explore your options. Research the consequences before diving in head first. Be spontaneous this evening.
Gemini- May 21-June 21: Tire of always doing what everyone else wants to do! Put your foot down and do something you want. You will see others will join you. Smile at someone you don't know, they will smile back.
Cancer- June 22-July 22: Feeling bored and sick of doing the same old thing. Call up a friend you haven't seen or spoken to in awhile and get together. Be safe and make wise decisions.
Leo- July 23-August 22: Your way or the highway is no longer going to work. Relax your guard and pride, other people have good ideas too. Treat yourself for your teamwork.
Virgo- August 23-September 22: Got the blues? Cheer yourself up by going outside and getting some fresh air. Don't leave any loose ends anywhere they will come back to bite you in the backside.
Libra- September 23-October 22: Go away this weekend. Go somewhere new and exciting. Stimulate your senses, you will feel refreshed and more in tune with yourself. Stupid mistakes are the ones that hurt the worst.
Scorpio- October 23-November 21: Keep doing the good work, but make sure you are taking on too much. You do not want to burn yourself out with only a couple months to go. Manage your time wisely.
Sagittarius- November 22- December 21: Not everyone wants to know what you think. Save your opinions and comments for times when they will be appreciated and better reflected with chosen company.
Capricorn- December 22-January 19: Your set on cruise control and whizzing by. Stop and smell the roses. You don't want to miss out and opportunity of a life time.
Aquarius- January 20-February 18: Feel angry and don't know why. Go for a drive and just scream. Scream as loud as you can. No one can hear you.
Pisces- February 19- March 20: Being pulled in all directions, take a break and watch a movie. Curling up on the couch with a bowl of popcorn and a blanket sounds like an excellent evening.

Spring Day Preparations Underway

By Joshua James Gervais

Planning for Spring Day 2006 is well on its way with a carnival inspired theme. Spring Day is an annual all day free event sponsored by the Student Government Association where students, faculty and staff can enjoy an entire day of games, food, fun, and more. This year, the event will be held on May 6th. Mary Wheeler, coordinator of the event, emphasized the importance of creativity as the Spring Day committee is working with approximately the budget of last year's arcade theme. Wheeler and the committee are considering arcade games again since they were so successful, a dunking tank, a fortune teller, RC racing, and prizes to give away. Wheeler is also hoping for nice weather so activities can be planned outdoors. Clubs are encouraged to get involved either by fund-raising, planning activities, or setting up and cleaning up afterwards.

Lyndon State's Artless Way of Dealing With Art

By Tabitha Fitzgerald

LSC offers a degree in Digital and Graphic Arts as well as one in Fine and Performing Arts. There is a large variety of art, theater and music classes that students can take. Art is even a required GEU requirement. Yet there is very little art on campus, and almost no student art.

The two places on campus where a majority of art can be found is in the library and in the Harvey Academic Center, in the hallway leading to Dorian McGowan's office. But these areas are about it. The art in the library comes from donations and loans, says Garet Nelson, the Library Director. The choice and the placement of the art is decided by the library staff mostly, says Nelson, but sometimes bigger choices are made by administration.

When someone has attempted to bring art to further reaches of campus the response has been horrible. A student by the name of Josh Mason painted a large mural in the hall of the Alexan-

der Twilight Theater lobby in 1998. According to the memorial picture in the library, the mural took about 600 man hours and cost around \$3,000. After the student graduated the school painted over the mural. The space is now a white wall. According to Dorian McGowan the student was "horrified and hurt". When McGowan mentioned the occurrence to one of his classes the response was, "I'll never paint a mural on this campus." Dr Beth Norris has also tried to bring art to the halls of the buildings. "I got funding for art cases (in the hallway outside the library) and they are not being used. I would love to see them overflowing with student art, but no one--faculty nor students--seem to be interested," says Norris.

Even while the halls stay almost artless the school seems reluctant to consult its knowledgeable staff. "I have never been consulted about any art placement on campus since I've been here, and I've been here since 1959," says McGowan.

The school has never even asked for McGowan to do any art for the school and yet he teaches or has taught many of the art classes on campus. With a growing number of graphic design majors on campus LSC's art interest is defiantly increasing.

Little of that can be seen in the halls of the buildings. As the interest in art rises so should the availability of viewing it. Teachers, such as Norris and McGowan, and students like Mason seem to be just the beginning.



The art gallery across from the library
Photograph By Tabitha Fitzgerald

Husband and Wife Pianists Play LSC

By Dillon Eliassen

Husband and wife piano team Donn-Alexandre Feder and Elisha Gilgore performed at the Alexander Twilight Theatre, Saturday (March 11) in the latest installment of performances presented by the LSC Lecture and Arts committee.

Feder and Gilgore performed three pieces during the concert. The first was "Art Deco" by David Noon, and was broken up into four movements: Pont Alexandre III, Rags, Lalique, and Mbira. The first three sections of "Art Deco" sounded ominous and intimidating, like an approaching thunderstorm, but the final movement, "Mbira" breaks through the clouds with optimistic, high-key notes.

The second piece performed was "An American in Paris" by George Gershwin. It was arranged for two pianos by Gregory Stone, and was revised for the March 11 performance by Feder. LSC junior Jessica Millhiser enjoyed "An American in Paris" the most out of the three performed. "It was more complicated and intense than the other two," Millhiser said. "I really liked the idea of two people playing piano at the same time."

After an intermission, LSC's Dean of Academics, Donna Dalton joined Feder and Gilgore on stage for the evening's final work, "Carnival of the Animals" by Camille Saint-Saens. "I liked the 'Carnival of the Animals,'" St. Johnsbury resident, Mary Plourde, said. "The narrator

was excellent."

Dalton made her concert debut by narrating "Carnival of the Animals" with poems written by Ogden Nash. Dalton would read a poem by Nash, describing a certain animal, and then Feder and Gilgore would express the poem musically. There were 14 poems and corresponding musical accompaniments. The music of "The Elephant" was played slowly, with low keys, resembling the sluggish, heavy walking of an elephant, while "Kangaroos" sounded light and bouncy, like the hopping marsupial.

"You could tell they were having fun, they were enjoying playing as much as we were enjoying listening to them," Plourde added.

Feder and Gilgore debuted as a piano duo in 1982 at Lincoln Center in New York, and played together for the first time in Europe in Rome in the summer of the same year.

Feder and Gilgore are accomplished solo artists, each performing throughout North America, Europe and Eastern Asia. They have both performed as soloists with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic, the Boston Symphony, the Berlin Symphony, and the Netherlands National Radio Philharmonic. When they are not performing, they spend their time teaching music classes in Korea, Japan, and Taiwan.

You Can't Park Your Car Here

By Joshua James Gervais

There's a gate that separates the Stonehenge parking lot from the Residence Halls. At the start and end of the semester, the gate is generally open so students can move in and out of their rooms more easily, but generally locked the remainder of the year.

"If we leave the gates open everyone floods in," Charles Lacaillade, Director of Public Safety, said. The parking spaces around Stonehenge are not meant for regular use, and cars parked there could block the way for emergency vehicles in the event of a fire or a medical emergency.

There is a \$50 fine for parking in the inner campus without permission, Lacaillade said, and Stonehenge is considered part of the inner campus. If you need to get past the gate public safety can open it for you.

Different People Think Different Things of LSC

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

LSC has two faces. One face is that of a professional school that trains students to learn a trade and go into a specific field such as meteorology or television. The other face is that of a liberal arts school that exposes students to a wide range of disciplines and fields of study and that teaches students to use critical thinking skills as well as have a better understanding of the world around them. Which face does LSC show the most of? That depends mainly on who you ask and on what day.

LSC was founded in 1911 as a teacher preparation college. "It has its roots as a professional college not as a liberal arts college," LSC President, Carol Moore, said. "Today, we're more of a comprehensive college; we offer career preparation programs as well as liberal arts programs," Moore said.

There are different definitions of what a liberal arts education is, depending on who you ask and it would be nice if there was a set definition, Bill Finger-

hut, Professor of Meteorology, said. Fingerhut had a concept of what a liberal arts education was, but found it difficult to put into words. He has noticed that over the years the term liberal arts education has come to mean whatever people think it means, Fingerhut said.

Most schools that bill themselves as liberal arts colleges have general education requirements; something vocational schools bypass entirely, Elaine Razzano, Associate Professor of English, said. People in the English and Philosophy department tend to perceive LSC as a liberal arts college Razzano, said. Most people who initially enroll in a professional program at LSC don't graduate within that program, whereas departments like English and Philosophy tend to see a gain in students as the semesters progress, Razzano said.

Those in the more professional oriented programs also tend to see LSC as a liberal arts type of school. There are professional programs at LSC as well as liberal arts studies, David Ballou, Professor of Televi-

sion Studies, said. One of LSC's strengths is its liberal arts programs and that the TVS department does not care much for the label of tech program, Ballou said. Although TVS makes use of large amounts of technology, Ballou does not consider the TVS department a tech program. "Our people are journalists and photo journalists; the rest is just tools," Ballou said.

Talk of whether LSC is a technical school or a liberal arts school has surfaced at times in the past Ballou said. Ballou finds it an annoyance when such talk comes up. "It's like having a wound that festers," Ballou said. "Sometimes people get pouty when TVS wins awards," Ballou said.

If the face that LSC shows the most is one of a liberal arts school; are there signs of LSC turning in the other direction towards a vocational flavor. "It seems like that's what the board of trustees wants," Fingerhut said. He had heard it said that Vermont state colleges are supposed to serve the

See People Thinking page 7

Hit the Stage with LSC's New Theater Minor

By Joshua James Gervais

Calling all Thespians, there will soon be a theater minor available at LSC. The new minor will be through the Fine & Performing Arts Department starting in the 2006-07 academic year. Due to the efforts made by students and faculty, this new minor gives LSC students a new academic option.

"Anyone that is going to be in front of large groups of people should look at this major," Professor of Fine & Performing Arts, Beth Norris, said. Television studies majors and education majors would also be good candidates for the major, Norris said. Television studies majors can use the courses offered in the minor to improve their presentation, while education majors can apply those skills towards working with school theater programs.

Norris said that students taking the minor will learn to research and apply that research to their role. Norris believes that the experiential nature of the work is an important aspect. "When it's all said and done it's not what I learned in a classroom that I remembered," Norris said, "It's what

I experienced." Norris said that theater classes open students up and makes them more self aware.

In addition, Norris said that the minor teaches memorization, time management, and responsibility. Along with taking performance classes, students can also take courses in theater production, where they learn how to design and build sets. Students are interested in the class and the production in ways unlike any other class, Norris said, "It becomes a community of learning."

To create the new minor, Norris said that there needed to be a need for having the minor, which could also be filled with the theater classes that LSC currently offers. The courses in the new minor needed to be courses that weren't specific to a single teacher, Norris said; otherwise the minor would have to be recreated if that teacher left the school. Norris said, to create a theater major would require new courses: acting, theater history, extensive design, which isn't possible with at the moment.

Graduation Just Got a Little More Inconvenient For Seniors Everywhere

By Joshua James Gervais

Every new student at LSC, starting with this year's freshmen class, will be required to pass certain tests in writing, quantitative reasoning, information literacy, and starting next semester oral communications, before being able to graduate. Each major is required to prepare students for these requirements—using time that otherwise would be spent teaching students the skills they'll need to continue in their major.

"It was mandated by the trustees," Chandler Gilman, Professor of English, said, and that the school's faculty and administration were not responsible for the new requirements. Gilman continued that the trustees originally intended for there to be six requirements which were later reduced to four. "The way they saw it, it was a matter of accountability."

Gilman said that the requirements for the writing portion include constructing a logical essay with a clear thesis. The quantitative reasoning includes logic, reasoning, and problem solving skills. Information literacy includes research skills and evaluating information and oral communications includes giving an oral presentation.

The requirements are graded on a rubric. The Writing requirement's rubric includes five components rated from 1 to 4. To pass the student must receive a total score of 13 or better, and have no scores of 1 and no more than two scores of 2. The other requirements have similar rubrics. The requirements will be administered as part of the class they are embedded into, Gilman said but if a student fails it is their responsibility to arrange to retake the test.

"I think people that graduate should be able to read, write, and think on a certain level," Gilman said. "There are better ways of assessing if students

have these skills, but it would take too much effort to be feasible," he said.

"I have serious doubts about the value of the kinds of simplistic graduation standards or competency tests that the VSC has decided to require of students," Professor of English, Richard Moyer, said. "They are essentially a misguided effort to demonstrate 'accountability' to some external community, such as the legislature or the business community." Moyer said that he saw two issues behind the requirements: a lack of investment into implementing the requirements, and misconception of the nature and purpose of education.

"As with many things in the VSC," Moyer said, "the central administration appears to be more concerned with saying we do this than actually doing it, so there has been absolutely no investment in what is a considerable new undertaking." The requirements would further tax VSC's already limited resources, Moyer said, "This misdirection of faculty resources has serious consequences for the people to whom we are truly accountable: the students."

"Students are writing all the time from the minute they get here," Professor of English, Elaine Razzano, said. She thought the writing standard was, "a bit superfluous." Another Professor of English, Alan Boye, said "I'm probably in the minority, but I don't think they represent what a college education should be."

"We've worked hard as a department to develop competencies that best meet our student's needs," Professor of Human Services, Patricia Shine, said. Shine administers the writing competency test. "People are tying their hardest to make them useful and not just another test to pass."

Budgeting Blues Strikes House Reps.

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

The month of March is a stressful time for clubs at LSC. The time has come for all of the clubs at LSC to write up their budget proposals and get them passed before the LSC House of Representatives. Normally House Reps from all LSC clubs meet every other Wednesday to discuss business and decide how money in the general fund is going to be spent, Mary Wheeler, Vice President of the SGA, said. During the budgeting process however, things are done differently. House meets every Wednesday starting March 8 and continues every Wednesday until the budgeting process is completed, Wheeler said.

The budgeting process is divided up into 11 phases according to the budgeting packet handed out to the House Representatives.

Phase I: Clubs present their budgets to the rest of House. No questions may be asked during this time and each House rep has five minutes to explain his or her club's budget.

Phase II: Clubs can now ask questions about other clubs budgets and motion to make cuts. A motion must be made and passed to move onto the next club's budget.

Phase III: Clubs offer up their own budget cuts. Questions can be asked and suggestions can be made by other clubs.

Phase IV: Phase II is repeated.

Phase V: Phase III is repeated.

Phase VI: House must decide whether or not to continue making budget cuts. If they decide yes, Phase IV is repeated.

Phase VII: The SGA vice president and the SGA treasurer must present the budget to House at the following meeting for approval. If approval is not given then Phase IV is repeated.

Phase VIII: The passed budget goes to the LSC Senate for consideration.

Phase IX: The LSC Senate votes on the budget. If they don't pass it a joint meeting of House and Senate is called to repeat phase IV.

Phase X: The SGA signs the budget or vetoes it. If he or she signs it, it goes on to the LSC president for consideration.

Phase XI: The LSC president looks over the budget. Budgeting ends with the president's approval. If approval is not given, the budgeting process returns to Phase IV.

"Budgeting is a unique process because a lot of other schools don't go through it. While it's a long process and sometimes tedious process, it's a valuable experience," Wheeler said.

If you participate in a school club be sure to thank your House Representative for the work they put in on a regular basis along with the added burden of budgeting.

People Thinking Continued From Page 7.....

needs of the people of Vermont and prepare them for today's job market, Fingerhut said. "We shouldn't lose sight of the fact that colleges should stimulate intellect, which doesn't necessarily prepare for a job."

"I think a lot of people would like to see us go in the tech school direction," Debra Bailin, Director of Student Academic Development, said. "That's been fought off," Bailin said.

"We're not considered a liberal arts school by some standards," David Johnston, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, said. The difference between a liberal arts college and a vocational school is why students are in their selected major, Johnston said. Studying

to get a job in a specific field is more closely associated with a technical oriented school whereas going to school for the sake of a broad education is more indicative of a liberal arts college, Johnston said. LSC is not a liberal arts college in the traditional sense and that LSC's extracurricular programs help make up for gaps within the liberal arts programs Johnston said.

"It's easy to Lyndon differently because of our professional programs," Bailin said. "People don't realize how much art there is in TVS," Bailin said. LSC has a seemingly technically focused program that is contributed to by a liberal arts program Bailin said.

Caitlin Stark, a Business Major, saw LSC as

a liberal arts school when she was deciding whether or not to attend. "I think it has its technical aspects but it definitely has its own flow," Stark said.

To conclude: the face of LSC is a strange one. Currently LSC is a liberal arts college that also has an array of professional programs all aimed at giving students a comprehensive education while preparing them for work in the field of their choice. Some might say that such diversity is the definition of a liberal arts education. What LSC will become in the future is anyone's guess.

.....Sports.....

The Difference Between Varsity Sports and Club Sports

By Joshua James Gervais

At LSC there are three types of sports; varsity sports, club sports, and intramural sports. The distinction between varsity sports and club sports isn't clear to all. Director of Athletics, Christopher T. Ummer, said one of the major differences between varsity and club sports is that varsity sports are funded and directed by the Athletics department while club sports are managed and funded through student activities fees.

Ummer said there are "different significant rules and regulations" for the varsity and club teams. Varsity players are bound by the policies and requirements in the Student-Athlete Handbook while club sports are regulated by the rules of that specific club's constitution. The Handbook includes academic standards, policies on academic honesty, hazing, and for conduct while traveling as a team. Ummer made sure to praise the organization and discipline that Jonathan Davis, ice hockey coach, instills in his team.

The varsity teams are part of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Ummer said, but next year they will be leaving the NAIA to join the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) as provisional members, and United States College Athletic Association (USCAA) as full members. "The strength of the conference has dwindled" Ummer said, "If we could have joined the NCAA earlier we would have." In four years LSC will be able to gain full NCAA membership, Ummer said, and the NAIA doesn't allow dual membership.

LSC's varsity sports include: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Soccer, Softball, and Tennis. Club sports include: Ice Hockey, Rugby, Dance, Daggers, and Outing. There are over 40 intramural sports offered at LSC, ranging from broom ball to basketball and even palates. For more information on intramural sports, stop by Sue Henry's office.

LSC SPRING DAY TRIATHLON



Lyndon State College Pool,
May 7th, 2006. Start 9 am.
Check-in 8:00-8:45



Swim. 500 yards, 10 laps, in the pool. Heats of 12.

Bike. 9.5 miles. 6 laps, of a paved circuit. Helmets required.

Run. 3 miles of pavement, grass and trail.

Registration. Individuals or teams register by April 28th with swim time and payment. \$5 for LSC students, \$10 for LSC faculty and staff, \$15 all others.

Day of registration is allowed at least one half hour before start, but you will be placed in the last swim heat.

This event is open to all. Teams and individuals are welcome. If unsure of swim time or ability the pool is open for practice and help is available by contacting Sue Henry, ext. 6242. A maximum of 75 entrants will be allowed. Secure your entrance or volunteer by e-mailing susan.henry@lyndonstate.edu



Design and artwork by Thom Markison

Needed a Whole Lot of Band-Aids for this Game

By Katie Barrett

As the sun beat down, and the wind slightly blew, there was a commotion going on at the LSC rugby field Saturday (March 11) for the annual Rugby Snowbowl. Only hours before, a sand truck was out spreading a layer of sand and salt to help with traction for the up and coming game. As the ice melted, it created a small lake on the rugby field for onlookers to stand in. The rugby players took to the field with pride and played hard.

Present were the LSC Men's Alumni, Lyndon State's men and women, the Johnson State College men's, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth's men and women, the Franklin Pierce men's team, and women of University of Maine Farmington, and the Saint Michael's College women's team. "The only team that didn't show up was St. Michael's College men's but that was a misunderstanding between them and us. They didn't plan on coming out this year due to injuries," Rugby President, Joshua Norris, said.

The field was split in half and played in 20 minute time frames. Generally each game at the snowbowl lasts about 43 minutes, consisting of two, 20 minute halves, and a one minute exchange time. The games played at Saturday's snow bowl were only 20 minutes long due to having to cut the field in half. As a result of this, the teams only play with ten people per team instead of the regular 15, Norris said.

During times that the players were not on the field they were fixing up burgers and hotdogs, courtesy of their sponsor, Hoagies. They were also mingling between teams and getting involved and talking to the locals who attended. The crowd of about a 150 watched the teams compete throughout the day despite the cold.

The winners of the tournament were the LSC Alumni for the men and the University of Maine at Farmington for the women. Nate Champagne, Jamie Hoopes, Derek Towes and Michael Lapearle all scored tries for the Lyndon State College men's team. While Amanda Wozniak scored a tri for the Lyndon State College women's team, leading her to become the new woman's MVP. "The Snowbowl was interesting, we had teams not come a team come that hadn't been on the schedule. It was just a good time even though it didn't go as expected," Danielle Fournier, one of Lyndon's women's players, said.

Overall the teams that showed up did a great job. Only a couple of people ended up with serious injuries, while many walked away with battle wounds and stories to tell their friends. At the end of the day, covered in mud, the players walked off the field with cuts and bruises, but smiles on their faces.



LSC and JSC mauling for the ball.
Photograph By Kurt Heichon

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The Critic

serving the student voice at Lyndon State College

Lyndonville, VT

April 14, 2006 Volume 52, Number 10

FREE!

Carol Moore Now One of Three Finalists

By Mary Wheeler

A search committee for Framingham State College has chosen President, Carol Moore, as one of the three finalists to fill the unoccupied position of President. The individual hired will be replacing former President of six years Helen Heineman. According to the Boston Globe, Moore, was selected out of a pool of over 100 candidates to fill this position.

Initially there had been four finalist, but one of them, Claudia Limbert, President of the Mississippi University for Women, withdrew, according to the Boston Globe. In addition to Moore, the remaining finalists are: Elsa Nunez, the Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs for the University of Maine and Timothy Flanagan, the Provost and Academic Vice President of the State University of New York Brockport.

Moore, who has been President since 1999, has been exploring the opportunity to work in the same state as her husband. Interviews for the position were held in April and the finalists will know of their acceptance by late April or early May. In a statement distributed to the community, Moore expressed

her mixed emotions regarding the opening, and her overall commitment to LSC and the future of the college.

Moore was also a finalist candidate in 2003 for Fitchburg State College.

Moore knew from an early age

that she wanted to become a teacher and began her undergraduate career at Montclair State University in New Jersey, which was historically a school for

It was during her three years as a high school general science teacher that Moore was given the opportunity to work at the college level and began teaching at Massasoit

cluding, Lasell College, Lesley College, and Mercy College before coming to Lyndon.

"I chose Lyndon because it was very much like Montclair State University,"

Moore said. "The small setting and ability to interact with the students is something you can't always find at a larger school."

Moore is proud of the dedication and hard work from the LSC community over the past seven years which she said "effectively positions the college for the future."

There have been many changes made that will serve the students better for the future, Moore said, which includes an increase in the overall enrollment of students by 16%, a tripling of the endowment, and quality reviews of LSC made by the NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges.) Despite an increase in enrollment, Moore hopes to see a corresponding increase in retention rates. Retention continues to be an issue. "Although the college has made positive efforts to retain students year after year, LSC can't seem to make enough progress to keep the rates up," Moore said.

LSC is currently working on finishing the strategic plan, and developing a new one for the centennial celebration. In approximately five years, a self-study will be made for the school regarding re-accreditation. Moore says she plans on keeping the community informed as the process progresses.



President Carol Moore
Photographer Mary Wheeler

teachers. Moore described the school's atmosphere as being very much like Lyndon's, small and interactive. It was here where Moore received her Bachelors and Masters Degree, followed by a doctorate from Northeastern University.

Community College. For the next 13 years, Moore was a full time faculty-member; Division Chair for the Science and Technology Department, and during her last year, the Assistant Academic Dean. Moore then went on to teach at several other colleges in-

VSC Does Not have any Plans to Compensate Identity Theft Victims

By Nicole Miner

There is much debate and concern over what the VSC will do for individuals who are hurt by the recent breach of security when a system laptop was stolen. Dawn Carleton, Federation Chapter Chair at VTC, had to close her bank account and order new checks at the recommendation of her bank. "I listened to my bank, even though the administration said it was not necessary," Carleton said. Carleton had to throw away two boxes of check which cost \$18 each. She emailed Karrin Wilks, Vice President for Academic and Strategic Planning of the VSC and asked about possibly being reimbursed for this inconvenience. Wilks told Carleton that they did not have any plans in place to deal with this type of situation. Carleton said, "It is not really the money, it is more the principle of the matter." The VSC administration does not have a plan in place to compensate or reimburse any individuals who fall victim to identity theft from the laptop.

New policies and procedures are being discussed regarding laptop use and encrypted information in the VSC. Last Wednesday (April 12) the Security Policy Steering Committee met to discuss the laptop issue and branch off into sub committees to begin rectifying the problem. Initially there was no faculty on the Security Policy Steering Committee. According to an email written by Jerry Anderson, a Johnson State College Faculty member Wilks was quoted as saying, "We had no crisis response policy when the incident happened. We need to develop one immediately."

The Security Policy Steering Committee is developing policies that will prohibit unencrypted information from being stored on laptops. There is also a policy being put into place that will restrict what information can be stored on both laptops and desktops. Unencrypted information will be prohibited from being stored on laptops, Wilks said. "At the current time, we have stopped send-

ing files through email. That is how the information was on the laptop," Carl Brandon, Professor of Science at VTC said. Brandon is working on the sub committee for encrypted security policies. Access to all files on the VSC system are not encrypted. The "log in" process to access the VSC network is not encrypted either, Brandon said.

The Board of Trustees has not yet met on this matter. "I think it is important to note that it has taken until today to get to an action phase with the Board," Anderson said in his email. "A matter of such urgency with such a high profile in the media world deserve a quicker response."

Wayne Hamilton, LSC Dean of Administration said. "I have followed the recommendations to protect myself. I personally hope that no one is harmed because of this."

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Special Issue: Lyndon in the World

LSC Tutors Attempt to Break Language Barriers

By: Keith Whitcomb Jr.

LSC faculty face many different challenges when it comes to teaching students who do not speak English as a native language, Debra Bailin, Director of Student Academic Development, said. The challenges vary widely from student to student depending on the culture the student comes from and their personal level of academic preparedness.

Writing tutors, as well as tutors in other subjects, have been working to train themselves to meet the needs of students who speak English as a second language (ESL students), Bailin said. One of the problems writing tutors face is the language barrier. Lauren Morgan, a writing center tutor and LSC student, said it can be difficult to explain basic rules of English to someone who didn't grow up speaking the language. Things like prepositions and articles come so naturally to a native speaker that he or she finds it difficult to explain it, Morgan said. It is easy to correct such grammar problems in an ESL student's paper but difficult to explain the grammar corrections, Morgan said.

Chol Atem, an ESL student who first learned English in Kenya said that it took him ten years of studying English to achieve the level of proficiency he has today. Atem speaks four languages, Dinka (his native tongue), Swahili, some Arabic, and English. Swahili he learned in school along with English but picked up Arabic from hearing it spoken around him, Atem said. "It is not hard if you learn it in school," Atem said. Atem said that he usually uses Dinka to speak with his friends along with English. It is harder to speak languages he doesn't use as often such as

Swahili and Arabic, Atem said. For classes such as math, Atem had to learn English. Dinka is good for counting but when it comes to algebra and things with formulas, Dinka cannot be used, Atem said.

"We have more students with ESL needs than we have in the past," Bailin said. "The biggest problem we have with the ESL students is that they come to us with different levels of English proficiency and different levels of academic preparedness," Bailin said. Japanese students tend to acclimate to academic life in America faster than other cultures without such rigorous academic institutions such as Japan has, Bailin said. Another problem ESL students have in acquiring English in an academic environment is that they tend to speak their native language with other students who also speak it, Bailin said. It is stressful to be speaking a second language all of the time and it is easier to use one's native tongue whenever possible; this slows down the speed at which the speaker acquires the language, Bailin said.

According to a video titled "Writing Across Borders" shown to LSC tutors at a mandatory meeting held March 30, aside from language barriers, cultural barriers also cause difficulties for ESL students, international students and teachers. According to the video different cultures have different preferences in essay structures. Americans tend to introduce their point at the beginning of an essay, whereas students from Ecuador will tend to introduce their point near the middle of an essay.

One Vietnamese woman who was interviewed in the video was marked down for an essay she wrote in her own country because she had used information

This issue of The Critic celebrates how Lyndon State College and the neighboring community reaches out to the world. Inside you will discover the interests in Buddhist traditions, students who don't speak English as their native language and the wonderful and enriching experience traveling gives an individual.

she learned outside of the classroom. When she came to America she lost points on essays for not bringing in ideas from outside the classroom. Other students found typical American essay topics difficult to write about. According to the video, some countries heavily discourage criticism of the government. This makes it hard for some international students to excel in American writing classes where such things are encouraged.

LSC Academic support is doing more to meet the needs of ESL students. "Deb (Debra Bailin) has done a lot independently with me," Morgan said. According to the "Writing Across Borders" video, adapting for ESL students does not require the lowering of academic standards or becoming experts in foreign culture. It merely requires empathy for non-native speakers to anticipate difficulties.



Debra Bailin, Director of Student Academic Development

Peace Corps Visits Lyndon State College

By Mary Wheeler

With graduation quickly approaching, students may find continuing with their education or getting a full time job, may not be the direction they want their life to go in. On Thursday (March 16), a recruiter from the Vermont Peace Corps visited Lyndon State College to inform students of the various opportunities and life-changing experiences they can gain when joining the Peace Corps.

Established in 1961, the Peace Corps (a non-profit organization,) allows volunteers to work for 27 months on various projects in different countries around the world. Volunteers work in different sectors including: agriculture, environment, education, health/community services, and professional and technical trades. According to their brochure, the Peace Corps mission is devoted to "helping people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women, promote a better understanding of Americans on the part of the peoples served, and promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of Americans."

All volunteers are required to attend a three month training course before beginning work in their community. This training happens in their assigned country of service which includes; technical skills, cross cultural education, language skills, and health and safety. The recruitment begins nine months prior to the beginning of the first session and participants must be at least 18 years of age and United States citizens. It is recommended that participants either have a col-

lege degree or some significant life or work experiences. Vaccinations, transportation, housing, training, and compensation are all provided by the program.

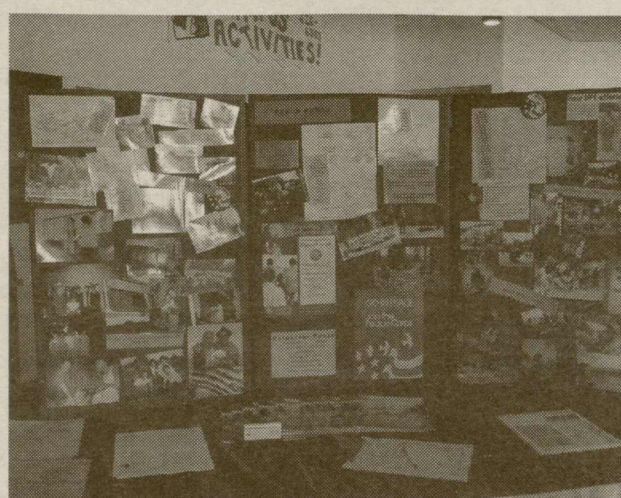
The application process requires a substantial amount of time and takes an average of six to nine months to complete. It is divided into six parts starting with participants including an application form, health questionnaire, college transcript, resume, and three references. An interview is given after the recruiter has received all of the volunteer's information, followed by a nomination into a specific program. Once nominated, a medical screening team from the Peace Corps will review the health questionnaire, and a formal invitation will be sent

out to the volunteer if they're accepted into the program.

Some of the benefits highlighted by Carmen Jaquez, the Peace Corps recruiter for Vermont, were the experiences of living in another country, developing fluency in foreign languages, and building confidence as a leader and member of a community.

"It's a very rewarding experience," Jaquez said. "People become the vehicles for local communities and can see the world through another set of eyes."

Those interested can contact the nearest representative at the University of Vermont at peace.corps@uvm.edu.



Peace Corps table display in the Student Center at LSC



Carmen Jaquez, the Peace Corps recruiter for VT

Editorials

What the World has to Offer College Students

By Nicole Miner

Spring semester of 2004 was the most enlightening and educational semester of my college career. I spent that semester studying abroad in Nottingham England. It would take me months to describe all of the wonderful experiences I had, all of the amazing things that I learned. Sitting in an English classroom, and producing work for British professors was a valuable experience. It forced me to open my mind and really work hard on what I was doing. I knew how to write for all of my professors at LSC, I knew what they were looking for; but in England, I had to start all over again.

Apart from my studies in England, I learned so much about the British culture, and the culture of other countries. My best friends in England were Ellen, who is Italian, and Sascha, who is German. We went out several times a week and it was always a new experience. My favorite memory of them is of a night out on the town. We had been dancing all night, to American music, and while walking to the bus stop Sascha asked me what "turn me on" means. We had been dancing to it only minutes before and both Ellen and Sascha knew all the words. I found it ironic that they knew the words, but not the meaning. It took me a good three minutes to come up with an explanation for "turn me on." I finally decided on "to prepares one's partner for sex." I of course went into more detail, but I am sure you all know what it means, so I will refrain from explaining further. Learning random phrases in other languages was a great past time. In German, wet willy is Foista Footsie. In Italian, booger is kakolai. It is true, I can go to Italy and tell someone that they have a booger in their nose, but I cannot ask where the bathroom is.

The great thing about traveling to other countries is that you get to see the history while you learn about

it. The Mona Lisa, the ugliest famous woman in the world, does look better in person than in a book. To fully appreciate another country, it needs to be experienced first hand. Alexander Strokhanov, professor of history, offers many opportunities for students to travel around the world and learn new and exciting things. Last week I was in Italy and France on a Strokhanov trip. Along with the history lessons we learned while traveling around, I learned a lot about myself and met some really great people. Elaine Razzano said to me, "If you really want to get to know someone, travel with them."

While in Italy with Strokhanov, I saw Ellen and Sascha. It was quite a shock to see them again. It was very much like old times, but we had all fallen back into our own cultures instead of the new culture we had created together. When last I saw them I acted very British, having been in Britain for seven months. The 24 hours I spent with them in Florence was occupied by getting to know them again, testing the waters and seeing how each other would react. I think I was more baffled by them than they were by me because Americanism are spread all over the world. Our TV shows air all of the world, our restaurants, politics, habits, and way of life is no secret to the rest of the world. Even with TIVO it is nearly impossible to see Italian and German TV shows. America is opposed to the rest of the world. We have this opinion of ourselves that we are better than everyone else, and we have the best of everything.

If we are so great, then why are there twelve year old girls running around France wearing shirts that read "I'm not your slave"? Is that really the best we can offer to other countries? For American television shows they have South Park, again, is that the best we have to offer? I love America, I am very patriotic, but hav-

ing studied abroad and gone traveling through Europe, I had the chance to see America through a new set of eyes. The riots in Paris have been in the news a lot lately. If heard about in America then it was probably presented as a big deal and that the entire country was suffering from it. I was in Paris, all the trains were running, there were no riots or even small gatherings. There was one building, a school, that had police surrounding it to keep the peace. One building. It amazes me, the extent America exaggerates things.

My travels had opened my eyes, broadened my horizons and opened many new doors to me. I think that studying abroad and traveling with Strokhanov are some of the most valuable lessons obtained here at LSC. Traveling allows an individual to learn something that cannot be taught in a classroom. I would encourage anyone to take advantage of these trips and the study abroad program we have here at LSC.

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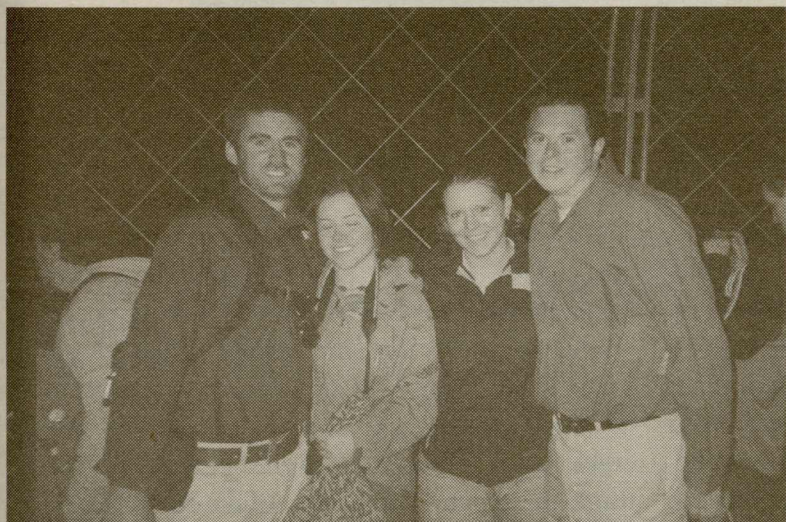
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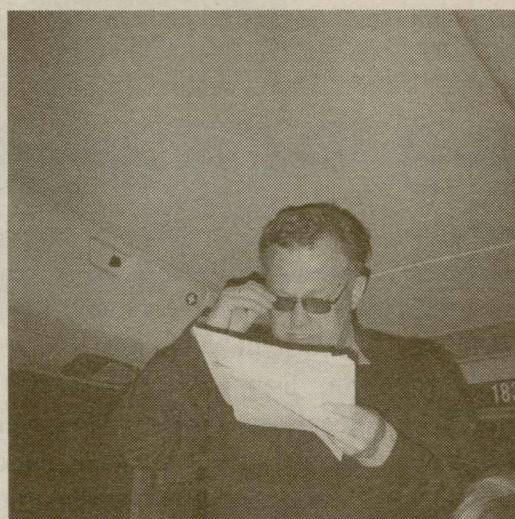
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A Few Photos From The Romantic Europe Trip



Jake Toof, Lindsey Siner, Vanessa Mackee and Nick Rowe on top of the Eiffel Tower



Alexander handing out paper work



A proper european toilet



Jade Chaloux, Tour Guide John and Nicole Miner

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Catamount Brings Foreign Gem into the Light

By Crystal Johnson

Foreign films have always helped American filmmakers find new ideas and even been inspiration enough to spawn a remake. Such films include, *The Grudge* and *The Ring*, which were first Japanese horror films. After great success overseas, they were remade into the blockbuster films that everybody is familiar with. These untapped resources are what keeps film makers today inspired, while keeping American audiences on the edge of their seats.

It is no secret that some of the greatest horror story ideas come from other countries. The truth of the matter is, Japanese culture draws from their own myths and legends and turns them into an art form that will relate to the general public. American film makers see this as a new and interesting idea and draw from this or simply remake the film entirely. A French film *Caché* has recently been acclaimed by the 2005 Cannes Film Festival and the 2006 European Film Awards as the next great psychological-thriller.

Caché, which is French for 'hidden,' envelopes all the qualities of a great thriller. The story follows a married couple who discover one day that a videotape has appeared on their front porch. Two hours of footage of just their front door and the street in front is all that is on this tape. Not knowing who is doing this, or why, the couple becomes afraid for their lives as the tapes continue and become more intimate, graphic and threatening. As the couple delves deeper and deeper into this mystery, their secrets become more present to those around them as their past comes back to haunt them.

Caché is a wonderful film that has all of the great ingredients to a thriller and has been keeping viewers on their toes to the end. Catamount Arts will be showing this movie Friday, April 21st through Thursday April 27th. Attendance is highly encouraged, however, if subtitles are not of interest to you, then this film will escape your grasp. Show times are usually at 7 p.m. and admission is free with your LSC ID (another great reason to skip on over).

Area Offers a Few Good Places for Foreign Cuisine

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Being tucked away in rural Vermont, LSC students do not have much access to foreign cuisine. If a student wants to eat out and have something with an international flavor he or she is going to have to drive out to Littleton and find something. However, there are a few places in Lyndonville and St. Johnsbury that LSC students can go for a break from everyday campus food.

At the end of Depot St. in Lyndonville next to Subway is a Chinese restaurant called Asia. It is one of the better Chinese restaurants in the area. The front of the place is made up of two large windows that are covered by shades. When the shades are pulled away the windows let in large amounts of light, which is nice. The only downside to the windows is that they give a good view of the traffic at the corner of Depot and Railroad street. The food at Asia is quite nice though. The portions are worth the

price (seven to ten dollars a plate) and meat lovers will not be disappointed. The Asia restaurant is also located near railroad tracks and the building shakes slightly when a train goes by.

Down the road at the White Market plaza store is Hoagie's. Hoagie's can be considered an Italian restaurant; green and red are predominant colors in Hoagie's and they make good calzones. They also make good steak and cheese subs that come with A1 steak sauce. The only problem with Hoagie's is that it is a little on the small side. The building used to be a bank and most of the floor space seems to be devoted to the kitchen.

In St. Johnsbury is a Thai restaurant called Thai Cuisine. It can be found on the left hand side while traveling down Route 5 from Lyndonville right before Price Chopper. This place is a bit on the expensive side. A cheap order runs about \$11.95. Unlike Asia, Thai Cuisine dishes are heavy on vegetables. Thai food is also known

to be spicier than Chinese food. Thai Cuisine, like Hoagies, is slightly cramped for space. The high ceiling and view of the road offsets the small quarters.

If an LSC student wants to eat out and get a taste of foreign food he or she has got at least three places to choose from in the immediate area.

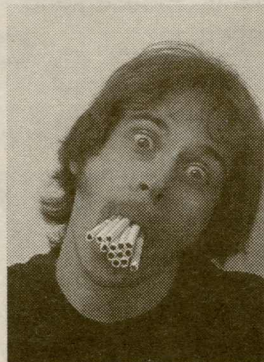


Asia Restaurant

Photograph By Tabitha Fitzgerald

Ding Dongs & Goofballs

LSCliques



By Dillon Eliassen

The health food craze of the last decade or so grows exponentially every year (I have statistics), and almost any item you can find in a supermarket has some organic or all-natural brand, even bacon. Bacon! I don't care how organic a pig is raised; bacon is still about the unhealthiest thing you can eat, except for maybe the Salmonella Burger from Jack-In-The-Box. Some brands of bacon are vague about how (un)healthy they are; Colonial claims that their product is "artificial and natural." I'm not sure how they're pulling that off.

McDonald's offers an organic salad dressing you can drench their non-organic salad in. I find it interesting that McDonald's has anything organic. The average health-conscious individual probably doesn't eat from McDonald's too often. I'm pretty sure a McDonald's Filet Of Fish sandwich has as much mercury in it as a rectal thermometer.

But, it's not just food that is organic nowadays. I stopped by Lyndonville Redemption to pick up some beer one night recently, and a certain brand was being advertised at \$7.49 a six

pack. The reason for the ridiculous price was that it was organic beer. I'm not sure what the advantages of organic beer are. I mean, it's still beer, right? Beer kills brain cells, and screws up your liver, so why pay more? Drinking organic beer doesn't prevent hangovers, or stop you from going home with a girl who has a mustache.

While waiting at the counter to buy my cheap, non-organic beer, I noticed a display of American Spirit cigarettes, an all-natural brand of butts. I went to the American Spirit website, and it contained the two warnings, "No additives in our tobacco does NOT mean a safer cigarette," and "SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking by pregnant women may result in fetal injury, premature birth, and low birth weight." So why bother smoking something that isn't any less dangerous? American Spirit cigarettes may not have any chemical additives, but if you light one up, you'd still be sucking smoke, a by-product of fire, into your lungs. Plus, they're more expensive than cowboy-killers, which I used for my Homer Simpsonsque photo to the left. Maybe by smoking American Spirits, a person could suffer from a more natural type of cancer.

Alcohol and tobacco are huge money making businesses, businesses that peddle harmful products to a consuming public more than willing to buy these products that slowly kill whoever abuses them. I think the next logical step is for

drugs to become organic. If organic cigarettes and organic beer is more expensive than regular cigarettes and beer, why can't a drug dealer charge more for organic drugs? Like heroin made from organically grown poppy plants, or cocaine from organic coca plants cooked into crack using all-natural ingredients. Do you think there are people who make hits of LSD and use recycled paper? There's got to be some environmentally conscious acid freaks out there.

I'm not trying to get down on people who take their health seriously and like organic products, but some things are unsafe and harmful no matter how natural they are. Somebody smoking an American Spirit might be killing himself at a slightly slower rate; an organic beer drinker won't have to worry about additives and preservatives when he's throwing up. I've noticed older people ask me things like "What's your poison?" when asking what kind of alcoholic drink I'd like to have. Essentially, beer is poison, a substance that affects your body and mind. If I saw the word "organic" above the word "poison," next to a skull and cross bones, I would not think it any safer than regular poison. Organic heroin might be a different story.

Fun Page

WORDS OF THE WORLD SEARCH

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M	I	A	N	W	S	Z	E	W	A	E	C	A	E	S	N	CATAMOUNT
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The words go horizontal, vertical, backwards, forwards and diagonally. Good Luck

2006 Student Juried Art Show Competition

By Katie Barrett

The 2006 Student Juried Art competition was held on April 13th at 12:30 p.m. located next to the Quimby Art gallery in the Harvey Academic Center. There was a fairly large turn out with students who had submitted a piece of art and other fellow students. About sixty-four submissions were passed in for the art show. "It has bee the best show yet, a lot of great pieces, and a wide variety was submitted," junior, Eric Kirk, said who is the winner of the gold prize for illustration.

There are thirteen different categories that students can submit their art work under. Best of Show, is an overall category chosen by the judges. Other categories include; Photography, Typography, Drawing, Painting, Graphic Design for Print, Branding, Textile, Illustration, Book Design, Photomanipulation, Sculpture, Best Freshman piece and Best Sophomore Portfolio.

The judges for this event included; Barclay Tucker, Harry Mueller, Kelly Glentz-Brush, Garrett Nelson and David Ballou. The

Outside the Box Club was also judges for the Sophomore Portfolio.

"This is the second show I have entered here. I am lucky to have been selected once again," senior, Jade Chaloux, said. Each piece was just as unique as the artist. Some of the pieces

submitted can be viewed in the Quimby Art Gallery during eight a.m., until four p.m. "The quality and level of everyone's work is the best I've seen, in previous years," senior, Javin Leonard, said.

Winners received a small prize and a cash prize. Goldprizewinners received a cash prize of \$20, and silver prize winners received a cash

prize of \$10. The Best of Show prize winner received a cash prize of \$125, and the Best Freshman prize winner received a cash prize of \$100. All cash prizes will however not be available to the student winners for another week or two due to the check processing. Congratulation to all the winners of the 2006 Student Juried Art Competition!



Back Row: Zach Durlin, Brian Eddy, Dave Dumais, Sarah Winans, Eric Kirk, Leslie Cherrington, Javin Leonard, Seth Wright. Second Row: Sarah Friend, Karen Perkins. Third Row: Jackie Cooper, Jade Chaloux, Kelley Avona, and Nichole Magoon
Photograph By Harry Mueller

Twilight Players Present

A Midsummer Nights Dream

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The winners are:
Best of Show - Greg Garceau with his Jupiter Jamborie
Best Freshman Work- Nichole Magoon
Best Sophomore Portfolio- Olivia Burge
Photography - Gold: Thorin Markison
Silver & Bronze: Leslie Cherrington
Typography - Gold: Leslie Cherrington
Silver: Olivia Burge
Drawing - Gold: Olivia Burge
Silver: Laura Redmond
Bronze: Jade Chaloux
Painting - Gold: Morgan Wiley

Horoscopes

By Madame Divine

Aries- March 21-April 19: Things are escaping your comfort zone, try taking a few deep breaths. Do something for yourself for a change, since no ones else will.

Taurus- April 20-May 20: A kind heart can only bring you so far. Avoid getting caught up in the drama that surrounds you and take a day for yourself.

Gemini- May 21-June 21: Have a meaning full interaction with someone close, one day this might lead to something more if you play your cards right.

Cancer- June 22-July 22: Choices, choices, choices. Remember to think about your decsions because they have consequences whether they are good or bad.

Leo- July 23-August 22: Face your fears, if you are angry, express it with out placing the blame. Yelling isn't always necessary. A calm approach will gain so much more.

Virgo- August 23-September 22: Your intentions are clear to many, but may still be hurting some one else. Even though you want to live your life everything you are surrounded by it affects. Think about your actions.

Libra- September 23-October 22: The balance you are seeking is not far off. Be gentle as you face your obstacles ahead but, be sure to be not to go over board.

Scorpio- October 23-November 21: Your current challenge is to get others around you involved. Plan a group outing for some fun and be spontaneous.

Sagittarius- November 22- December 21: Your romantic side is in full gear. Take that special some one special and surprise them with a little gift. More sure you keep everything honest, the results will be beneficial.

Capricorn- December 22-January 19: Work is taking over your life, but have no fear, they need all your help they can get. It will all pay off in the end.

Aquarius- January 20-February 18: Patience maybe wearing thin right now. Remove yourself from situations where you feel like you are going to lose control. No one likes to some one out of control.

Pisces- February 19- March 20: Whether there is some one close or not, remind yourself that all things will look up in the end. That light will be shining soon.

Silver: Javin Leonard
Bronze: Karen Perkins
Graphic Design for Print - Gold: Greg Garceau, Karen Perkins
Silver: Javin Leonard
Bronze: Sarah Friend
Branding - Gold: Seth Wright
Silver & Bronze: Brian Eddy
Textile - Gold: Amy Rost
Silver: Jackie Cooper
Illustration - Gold: Erik Kirk
Silver: Thorin Markison
Bronze: Justin Russo
Book Design - Gold: Jaki Martin
Silver: Jackie Cooper
Bronze: Sarah Winans
Photomanipulation - Gold: Zach Durlin
Silver & Bronze: David Dumais
Sculpture - Gold: Kelly Avona
Silver: Jackie Cooper

Buddhism, it is a Whole New Religion

By Katie Barrett

Buddhism is not a very missionary orientated religion, often time's people hear about Buddhism from word of mouth, or advertisements, or even just on television, and in movies. People who follow Buddhism as a religion, or are involved with the meditation aspect of Buddhism, do not go out and try to get people to join. However there is a theory that Buddhism is not an actual religion; there are many different aspects and ways to experience Buddhism. "It's a very personal experience. The "path" is as individual as each person is," Corinne Marie, an LSC student who practices Buddhism meditation, said.

Marie, is a member of the Karne Choling as a Shambhala Buddhist in Barnet, Vermont. The Karne Choling, a meditation center, began in 1970 and was the first center in America to teach Buddhism. There are no monks or nuns, but just average people learning to meditate. The Karne Choling Center is located in Barnet Vermont on more than 600 acres of forested hills. At the center, there are seven meditation halls, a Zen archery range, a large organic garden, private guest rooms, and a full dining facility.

Shambhala Buddhism trains people that all human beings have basic goodness. It is a way to get to know yourself, and accept yourself as good. "We are clouded over with our culture, parents, education, and all kinds of expectations. I am not saying this is bad. On the contrary, its wonderful in many ways, however, we all have those tapes playing in our heads of what a bad person I am, etc. We all deal with that on some level," Marie said. In many ways Shambhala training is a way of understanding yourself and accepting who you are, including all your faults, as good.

At the Karne Choling center in Barnet, the main focus is medi-

tation, Shamatha meditation to be exact. Shamatha means peaceful abiding, and this is the meditation practice that the Buddha taught. The focus of the meditation is to place your mind on your breath, and when the mind wanders off, to bring it back gently on your breath. Another form of meditation is Tonglen, which is sending and receiving practice, and another called Windhorse which is a Shambhala practice. These are not the only forms of meditation practice.

The Shambhala Practice at the Buddhist center in Barnet is open to everyone. "I have been here at Karne Choling for almost four years and have seen people of all faiths, minorities, and age groups come to learn to meditate. Christians, Jews, Atheists, all come to learn to meditate," Marie said. Meditation is not just for a select group of people but is open to everyone. The focus of meditation can aid you in your daily life in any work, or situation you might find yourself in. "Anyone can come and have a meal, and meditate with the staff," Marie said. "I have a class, where before we start the actual class, we do a breathing exercise to help us relax and prepare for a good class," Amanda Wozinak, a junior graphic design major, said. Often time breathing exercises help clear the mind, and can be done anywhere. Sit in a quiet place, or just sit in an area where you feel comfortable, close your eyes, and concentrate on your breathing, and when you start to wander away in your thoughts, pull yourself back to your breath. This can help before writing a paper, or taking a test. It will calm the mind and body, and put you in a relaxing state.

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As The Government Takes a Stand, LSC Wonders at the Point

By Tabitha Fitzgerald

Protests wage across America as people stand up for illegal immigrants.

As the government looks for a way to control immigration the public seems to be all for it. As the government debates on deportment for illegal immigrants or punishment for their employers, American citizens seem to say let them stay, give them a chance. With all of this going on there is little information that can be accessed about it. All of the papers, broadcasts and internet news seem to tell the public the same thing. The country is cracking down on illegal immigration and the citizens are protesting.

According to Newsweek's March issue illegal immigrants are up from three million in 1980 to 11.1 million today. now the government wants it to stop. How they plan to do this is unclear. According to Newsweek there is talk about building a wall to run the 700 mile stretch between America and Mexico. "Where there's a will there's a way," said Elaine Razzano, "People will find more dangerous routes to get here." According to Razzano the government has tries to block entrances and penalize employers before and their attempts were unsuccessful. Why would it work now? "We have a weird ideal on how things ought to be that doesn't mesh at all with how things need to work," said David Johnston. Johnston said that it is time to accept and address reality. Something new needs to be done about illegal immigration. The government is addressing the same old problem with the same unsuccessful attempts.

Now the government is talking about penalizing people who give work to illegal immigrants. "I think it is stupid that you can't give them a job, it's stupid," said Brendan Foley, an LSC student. Foley suggested giving them work visa's or a time period in which to file the necessary paper work to become a

citizen or get a legal visa. Razzano said that some of these illegal immigrant may have fled their home countries and come here illegally with the intent of becoming legal citizens. "The situation here in Vermont may not be as bad as in a place like California," said Razzano. She said she knows farmers who hire seasonal immigrants to help on their farms in positions they say other people don't want to do, like picking apples. Many of these farmers may not think about asking for a green card, work visa, or asking the person if they are here illegally. They are just glad for the help. This is probably different in bigger cities but why penalize everyone who hires these people. "The little guys will become the scape goats," said Johnston. The bigger corporations will get away with it or pay their way out of it, Johnston added.

While the protests may not seem to affect LSC or the Lyndon area communities, this problem may be closer to home than people think. Razzano commented on the new owners of Burke. Who are they going to hire? They probably won't hire locale people. Most likely they will bus them in, she said.

Through the next few weeks this issue will be a hot topic. While most news sources seem to be feeding the public with different versions of the same information, people will want to be heard. Citizens and potential citizens are standing up and speaking out. "It is interesting I heard someone say on the radio, or something, that protesters should bring American flags and not the flags of where they are from," said Johnston. According to many radio broadcasts people did. Citizens and immigrants alike are showing they are or want to be Americans. "At one point everyone here was an immigrant," said Johnston.

Lyndon State Bends Over for Yoga

By Crystal Johnson

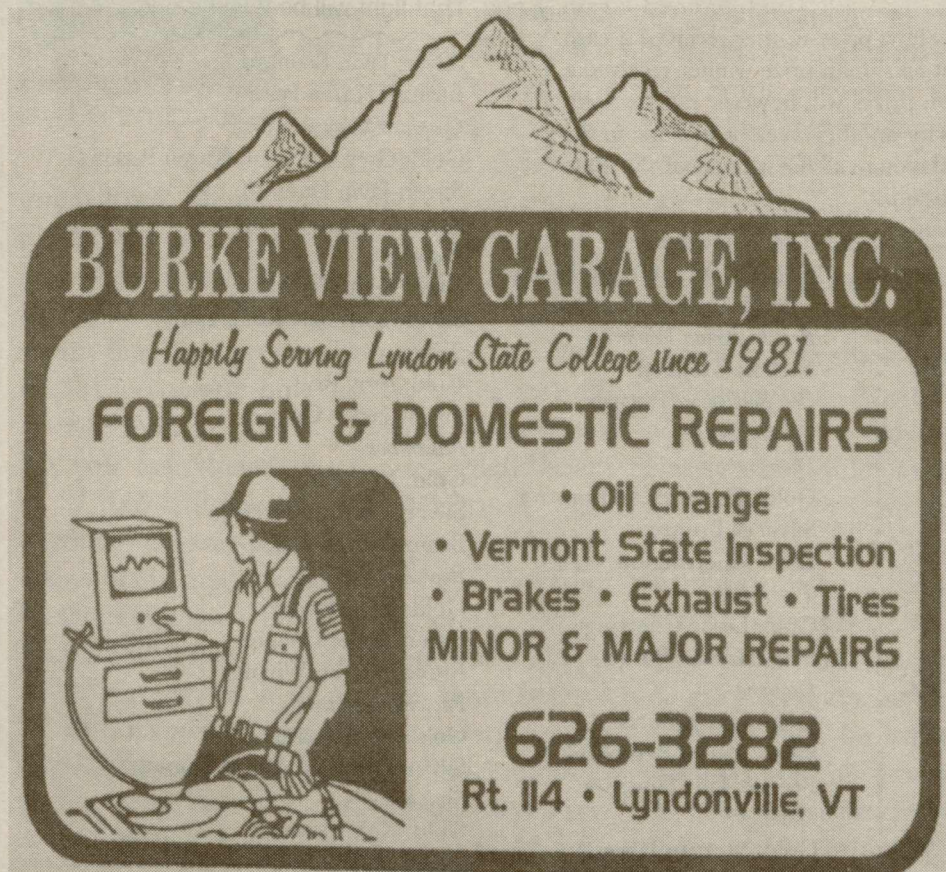
Over the years, new diets and hip new exercise programs have come and gone. One method for exercise, mental and physical well-being, is Yoga.

Most people know the general idea for yoga; you stretch, do funny poses, make noises while you breathe. What a lot of people don't know, is that yoga has been around for a long time, and is not showing any signs of going away anytime soon.

Originally developed in India as a mental and physical practice, yoga has been around for 5,000 years at least. Although the adaptation from eastern traditions to western traditions has changed the face of yoga, the main idea is still present in its practice. Students of yoga are encouraged to relax, breathe in steady rhythms and concentrate. Those who decide to practice yoga get cool names, too. A male is called a yogi and a female is called a yogini. It is this practice that allows students to become a calm center and this world famous practice has developed a large following over the past five years. Yoga is a low impact workout that doesn't require you have a well toned, flexible body. Anybody has the opportunity to use yoga to their best advantage and this well loved form of mental and physical rejuvenation was clearly made with every body in mind.

At most Fitness Clubs, you can find yoga on the list of classes offered and it is no surprise that students at LSC are also being offered the benefits of this eastern relaxation practice. For students looking to discover their inner calm, LSC is offering two sections of Yoga I in the fall, and one section of Yoga II, for the advanced Yogi or Yogini. Offered once a week, this class will give students the benefits of flexibility as well as the perk of not having to arrive for class before 11 a.m.

What will a person need, should they decide to practice yoga here or at another fitness club? It is recommended that a person bring comfortable, stretchy pants, a comfortable top, a yoga mat and plenty of water. Don't forget to bring an open mind and be prepared to work your body and mind as well. Currently, there is no added lab fee for taking yoga in the Fall, but you will probably need to furnish your own supplies, so it is encouraged that you seek out these items before the first day of class.



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A Flock of Foreign Flags Displayed at LSC

By Joshua James Gervais

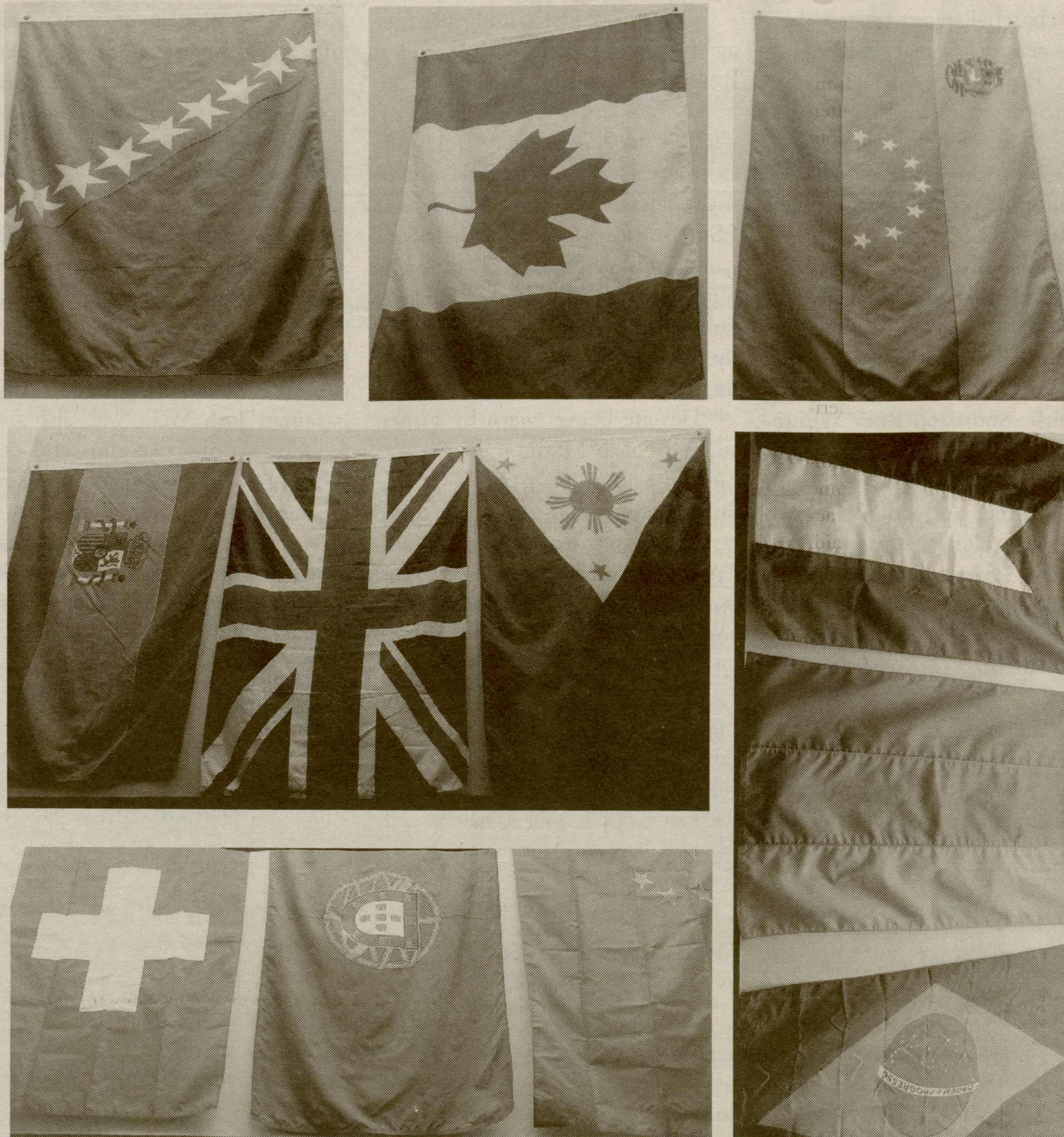
In the Library Academics Center's third floor hallway there's a display of flags from the countries of origin of LSC's students, faculty, and staff. On display are flags from Argentina, Armenia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Ireland, Japan, Lithuania, the Peoples Republic of China, the Philippines, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and Venezuela. A flag from Poland is also on its way, Staff Assistant to the Dean, Tracy Sherbook, said.

Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administrative Affairs, said the flags were once in the Steven's Dinning Hall. It was decided that the LAC hallway was a better place to display the flags, so that both resident halls students and commuters could see them.

Debra Bailin, Director of Student Academic Development, said that Perry Vales, the former Dean of Academic Affairs, maintained the flags informally during his time at LSC. "During the time of apartheid, we had a black student from South Africa," Bailin said. "And the flag tradition had been going on for a few years so we asked him if he wanted a flag from South Africa, suspecting that he might not want one. It was a good thing we asked him, because he didn't want one."

Jonathan Davis, Director of Residential Life, said that a former Student Government President, Ed Argenta formalized the process in 2003; creating a system where every year new flags would be purchased to keep the collection up to date.

Resident Hall Director, Kate Murphy, said that the funds for the flags come from student government, and they were last updated this spring. An order was made last year, but the order didn't go through.



Foreign Exchange Students At Lyndon

By Katie Barrett

For many, Foreign Exchange Students is a term used for referring to students who were born in a different country and have come to live and go to school in the United States, however this term should be used lightly. Many students who are considered Foreign Exchange Students are sometimes born in a different country, but have resided in the United States for a period of time.

It is often the case that students come to live with family members who reside in the United States, and stay through their high school graduation, before entering college. The school systems may often times not offer the subject(s) that a student wishes to pursue further, or the criteria that one must complete in their native country, may differ from schools here in the United States. Thus coming to the United States may be a decision that a student might make to further their educational experience.

The term Foreign Exchange, must be used lightly, for many students are not actually considered "foreign" in the eyes of the college. Many times "foreign exchange" students are only viewed as such, if they need English as a Second Language, or need help understanding the English Language. Here in the United States, the term "Foreign Exchange" is in a way a relatively subjective term.

LSC has had, "foreign students" who were the spouses of American citizens. These students were designated as such unless they identified themselves as having come from a different country of origin, we (U.S. born students) wouldn't know that these students were in fact "international," Deb Bailin, Director of Student Academic Development, said. Many students are often considered to be Foreign in origin, if they speak with different voice inflections as compared to other known U.S. born students. The accent of a student can in itself be used, ignorantly by American students, as an improper tool in wrongfully identifying a student as "Foreign". "I would guess, if I didn't know someone was a Foreign Exchange student, but I would guess by their accent, behavior in social situations in terms of manners and such, but definitely their language," Danielle Fournier, a sophomore, said.

Many times the culture shock of a student coming from a different country can be a difficult thing. Many experiences for students can differ from driving, to slang, to even common every day things. For some it is not a big change going to college. "Before I came to Lyndon, I lived in Rhode Island for a couple of years, but I moved here from Switzerland," Emily West, a junior, said. "I have residency in Rhode Island."

West moved to Rhode Island when she was sixteen from Switzerland. She had already graduated from her high school, but moved to the United States, and completed her Junior and Senior year of American high school. "I could have gone to college in Switzerland, but I would not have gotten the same experience as if I had moved and then come to college here [at Lyndon]," West said.

Here at LSC, we have students from Bosnia, Canada, China, the Dominican Republic, Japan, Portugal, the United Kingdom, Spain, two students from Russia, and five students from Sudan. "Now, some of these might be resident aliens and some are here on student visas in order to attend school in the US," Deb Hale, Registrar, said. The small number of foreign born students here at Lyndon adds to the ethnic and cultural diversity of the LSC community which, due to its geographic location, is very homogeneous. The vast majority of students at LSC are American born, and Caucasian. The diffusion of cultures, ethnicities, religious affiliations, and nationalities of the members of our college community greatly enhances the experience of every student who enrolls at LSC.

Baseball Team Hits Early Rough Patch VS Fisher

By Dillon Eliassen

The Lyndon State College baseball team started their season against Fisher College in Boston on April 1. LSC and Fisher played four games over the weekend, playing doubleheaders April 1 and April 2.

The Fisher College Falcons squeaked by LSC with a score of 10-9 in the first game played on Saturday, April 1. Leftfielder Brent Cox was two for five, with four runs batted in. Rightfielder Mike Swan also went two for five, and scored two runs. Shortstop Rory Whittemore was one for four, and second basemen Mike McCarron went one for three, and both had two RBIs. Jesse Hersey started on the mound for LSC, and he pitched for 4 1/3 innings before being relieved.

The second played on Saturday was like the first; LSC lost by only one run. Jordan Royer pitched the first five innings, and Mike McCarron finished the game for LSC on the mound. Whittemore led the Hornets offensively, batting two for three and

batting in one run in LSC's 3-2 loss.

On April 2 LSC and Fisher met again for another doubleheader. Brandon Sorenson started on the mound for game three of the series. The Hornets couldn't get any momentum going against Fisher, falling to the Falcons 14-2. Jesse Ballard was LSC's starting pitcher for their final game. Fisher dominated throughout the game, allowing the Hornets only two runs which LSC scored in the second inning. Brent Cox had the RBIs in LSC's 10-2 loss to Fisher.

Despite being swept by Fisher, student coach Matthew Durso was pleased with LSC's play. "We're farther along than where we were last year as a team," Durso said. "We have a more cohesive unit, and our players are more dedicated this year." Although these four games were LSC's first games of the season, the Fisher Falcons had already played 16 games. Because of winter, baseball and softball teams from Southern New England start their seasons earlier; Fisher's sea-

son opener was on March 4. The Hornets baseball team is at a disadvantage since winter is longer for LSC it means they have fewer opportunities to play and practice.

The Hornets first win of the season came on April 8 when they traveled to Saratoga Springs, New York, for a doubleheader against Skidmore College. Jesse Ballard pitched a complete game, giving up only five hits in LSC's 9-3 win. Catcher Matt Lapham hit two for four, batting in two runs and scoring one. Third baseman Josh Wells was also two for four, scoring two runs and one RBI. LSC lost in their second game against Skidmore, by a score of 14-4. First baseman Leon Ferrick led the Hornets offensively, going two for three and hitting one double. Centerfielder Rob Malloy was one for three, scoring one run and one RBI.

The Hornets flew down to Plymouth State University and swept the Panthers in a doubleheader played on April 9. LSC edged out Plymouth 7-6, led by the

pitching of Nicholas Rivers and the bats of Ferrick, Hersey and Wells. Ferrick hit two for four, racking up two runs, two RBIs and hitting his second double of the season. Hersey was three for four with a triple, and Wells went two four three, contributing one run and one RBI.

In game two of the doubleheader against Plymouth, LSC scored eight runs in the first inning of their 11-9 win over the Panthers. Hersey pitched a complete game, Wells hit three for four, with one run and one RBI, and Whittemore hit two for four, scored two runs and brought home one.

On April 11 LSC split a doubleheader against St. Michael's College. The Hornets lost to the Purple Knights 5-1 in the first game, but bounced back against St. Mike's in game two, winning 8-3. Wells pitched every inning, while Hersey hit two for four, with one run and one RBI, and Swan hit two for five, adding a run and two RBIs.

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The Critic

serving the student voice at Lyndon State College

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April 28, 2006 Volume 52, Number 11

FREE!

LSC Promotes Energy in Earth Week

By Tabitha Fitzgerald

Earth week, an annual event at LSC, was held during the week of April 17. Many different activities were situated all over the campus, some of which were run by students and guest speakers. The activities ranged from pie eating contests, informal movies, and the chance to paddle canoes around the pond in back of the student center.

One class in particular held a week long Earth Week event. David Johnston's Environmental Ethics class had a choice between two events. They could either go to a discussion or collect trash, Johnston said. The discussion was a Cafe de la Pense discussion on genetically altered organisms. The other event was to collect trash in the local community or on campus to raise money for charities. The students were to ask people to sponsor them by donating a certain amount of money for each pound of trash that particular student collected, Johnston said.

"I figured it would kill two birds with one stone," Josh Damaso, an LSC junior, said. Damaso is in Johnston's Environmental ethics class, and was the student who suggested this particular idea. Damaso figured it was a good way to clean up the community, contribute to earth week and give to charity. "A person will donate like a quarter per pound, so if I collect 37 pounds that is \$9.25 for a charity," Damaso said. The total money raised will be split between three charities; UNICEF, CARE, and Oxfam America, Johnston said. The trash collected weighed in at 100 pounds. The total raised was \$326.00.

On Thursday, April 20, two stands were set up outside the student center. One stand was a bike hooked up to a board with light bulbs on it. According to the flyers, a person on the bike could generate enough power to light up the bulbs. There were two types of bulbs hooked up

to the board. Two were generic 100 watt bulbs, and two were energy star bulbs. The brochure said that it would take twice the effort to power the regular bulbs as the energy star bulbs. According to the sign situated near the bike, the experiment was to show people that products can save energy.

The other stand set up outside of the student center was run by a New Hampshire organic farm called D Acres. They had a poster board that showed different parts of the farm and the type of things grown there. This stand also had a stack of brochures for anyone interested.

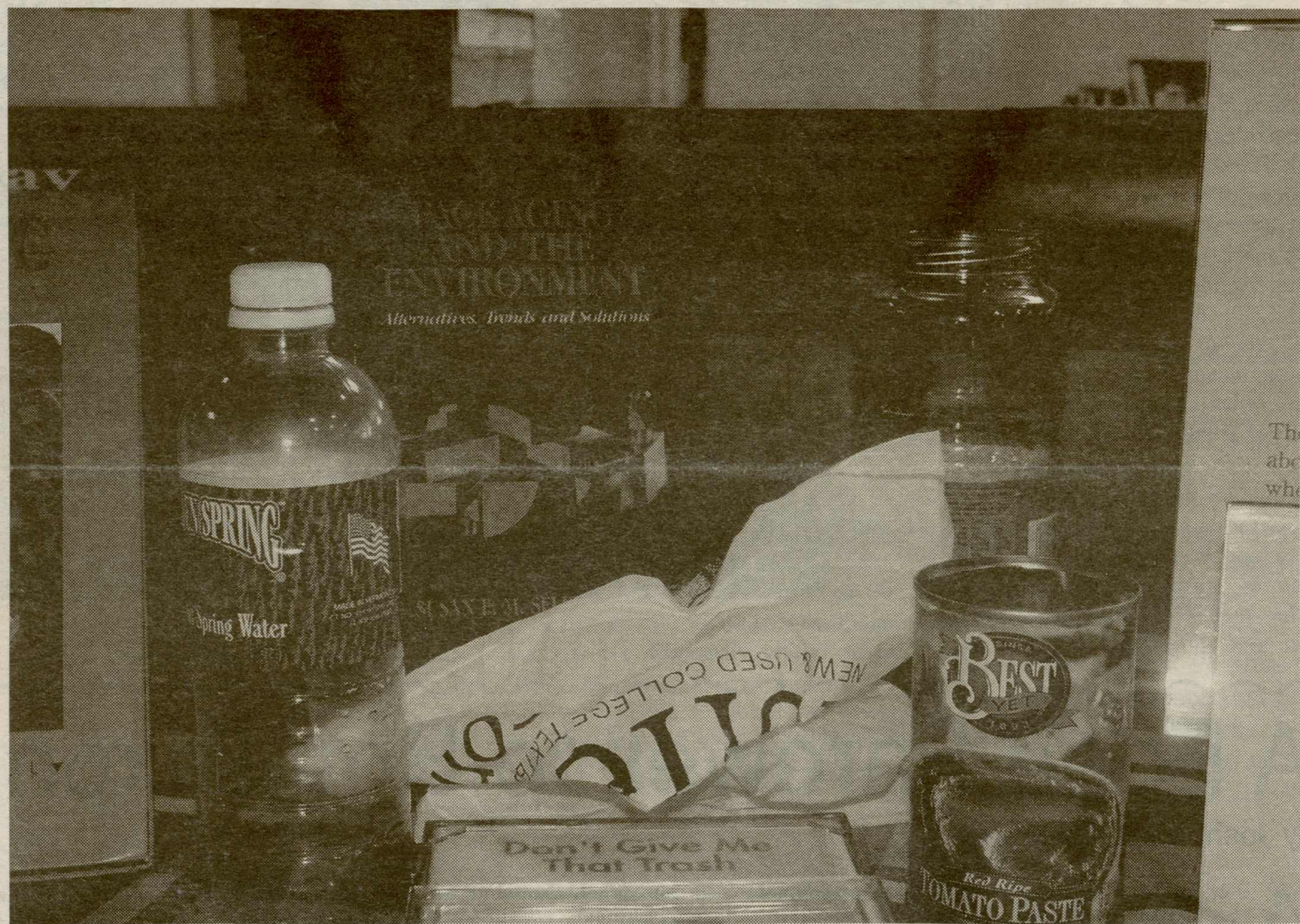


Table display in the Student Center during Earth Day. Photograph by Tabitha Fitzgerald.

Vermont State Colleges Face Tuition Increase for 2007

By Crystal Johnson

The Vermont State Colleges' Board of Trustees had a lot on their April 20 agenda. Among many topics brought to discussion, the tuition increase for the Fiscal Year 2007 was a touchy subject for the members, especially for Chancellor Robert Clarke. The Board of Trustees met at Johnson State College and were accompanied by the Presidents of all of the VSCs, including LSC's President, Carol Moore.

The topic of how much the costs should be raised has been greatly debated over the past year, and during the Board meeting, Chancellor Robert Clarke brought to attention how much the expected increase has been reduced in the past few months. "At Johnson, Lyndon and Castleton, we had originally had a 6.5 percent increase and we were able to lower it to 5.5 [percent]," Clarke said.

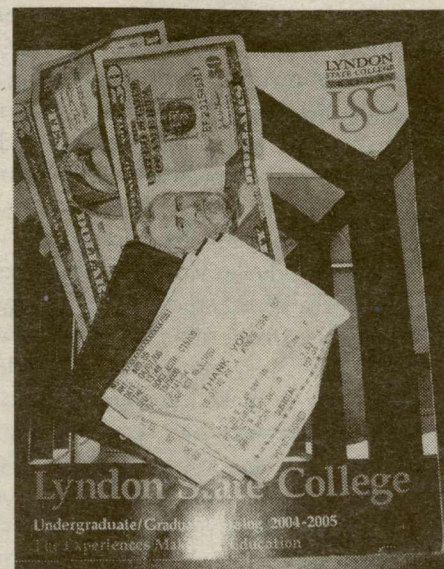
Clarke hopes that this rise in tuition costs will call attention to the Vermont Promise Scholarship, which strives to supply VSC students with funding for their college careers as long as they're born in Vermont and agree to remain in Vermont for at least one year after graduation to help the economy. The burning question on everyone's mind is, how will this increase affect incoming students in the next few years?

"We are only about 8 percent above the national average...So I don't think that will have an effect on the enrollment in the VSC next year. That's also another reason we really, truly support the Vermont Promise Scholarship..." Clarke said.

Another side of the argument can be made on behalf of all VSC students; why have an increase at all? According to many members of the board, the added expenses are stemming from less funding from legislators and more pay raises within the college. The tuition increase, which was given a unanimous vote to go ahead as planned for 2007, is a result of less student matriculation and a higher increase in costs. Instead of cutting back on funding for programs in the VSC, the committee members decided the raise in tuition would allow these programs to continue and become stronger, as well as obtain the attention required to allow for more funding from the legislature.

"I think the students can make the connections for the legislators and they can, after it is announced that there will be a tuition increase, let their legislators know that this increase is due to the fact that we are not receiving enough funds at the state level for this, and that, I believe, will help

to make the connection, if they are not making the connection for themselves," Marie Gray, Trustees member, said.



Photograph by Tabitha Fitzgerald

An In-Depth Look at The Portners

By Crystal Johnson

Mr. and Mrs. Portner have been apart of the LSC faculty for almost thirty years and their office is a reflection on that fact. When the discussion of moving into a smaller office came up, Richard and Terry Portner chuckled at the thought. "I guess what we'll probably end up having to do is, probably take one of our bedrooms at home and turn it into a storage place," Terry Portner said. While the idea of having to move out shocks the two faculty members, Richard Portner tries to stay hopeful. "Since TVS has been unsuccessful in the search for a new full-time person, and since we are going to be teaching part-time in the fall, perhaps we will get an exemption and will stay where we are," he said.

Over the years the two have developed great memories with their students and with one another. Richard Portner was partly responsible for the creation of the Television Department. "David Ballou and I created what was then called the Communications Arts and Sciences Department and then, we received a federal grant to create the Television Studio and we were off and running."

The story of the couple goes back before their employment at LSC. "We met in theater...it was just because we were so comfortable with each other and we both shared so much in common, that everything seemed to be 'let's get married,'" Terry Portner said. "And forty years of it just grew..." The two ended up at LSC due to a need for faculty in the theater major. In 1988, theater was dropped as a major, and the two gravitated more towards the TV major. But, long before they came to LSC, the pair were in the midst of a long distance relationship and by writing to one another, they were able to reach out and show their feelings.

"Mr. Portner is a romantic, and Mr. Portner, when he was a younger man, was extraordinarily shy. But, he was a literate man and so, he was really much more comfortable writing his feelings...He wooed me with words." They explained that they had kept their letters from one another and when searching for props for their performance of "Love Letters", they discovered the letters they exchanged during courtship.

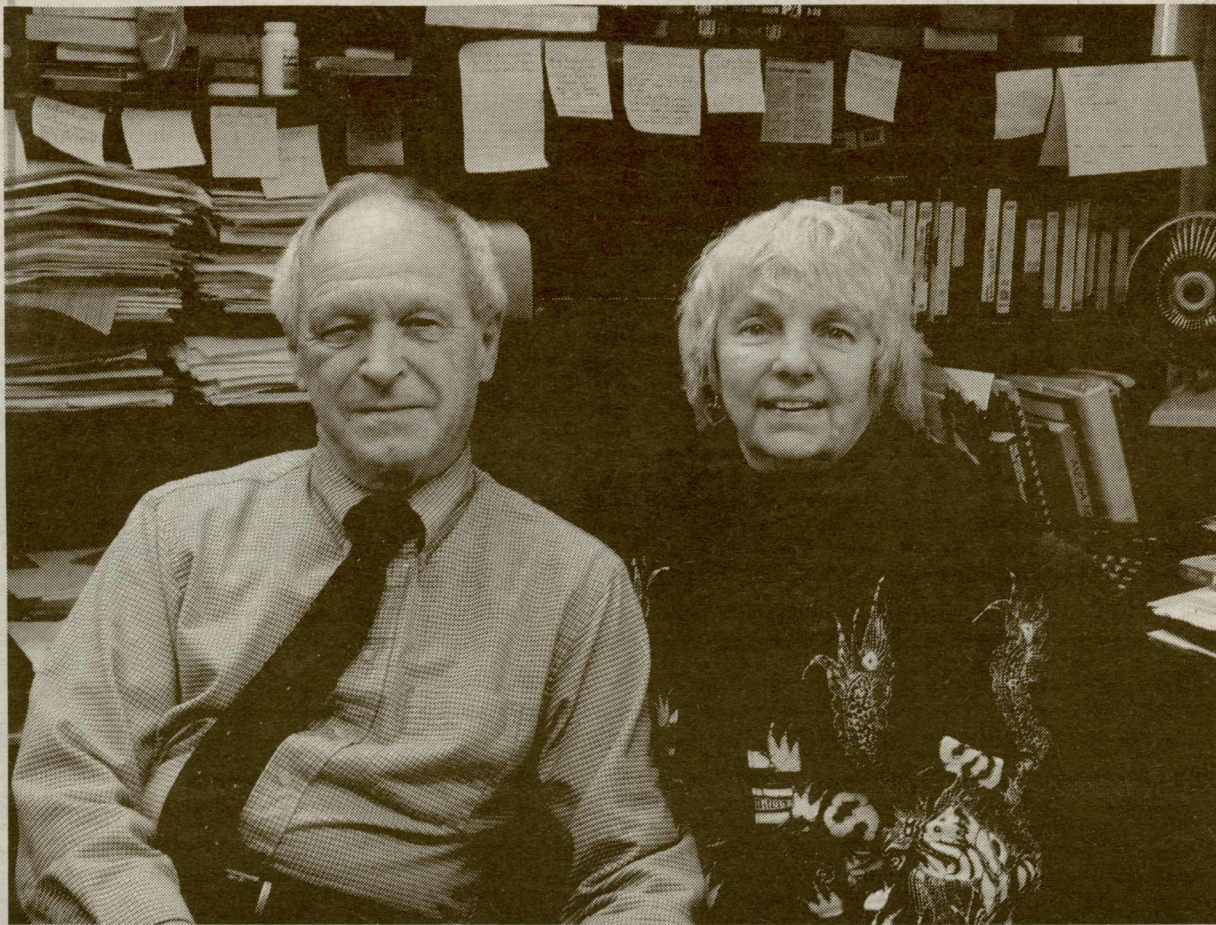
"Love Letters" by A.R. Gurney was performed in February at LSC for two nights only and was well received by the past and present LSC community. It was also for a great cause. "This time around it was for a really, really, wonderful cause which happens to be for the scholarship. We are really proud of that," Terry Portner said. The pair agreed that the need for this scholarship is much greater then originally anticipated. "What happens

in a lot of schools, is athletics gets the dominant publicity and some other scholarship program...sometimes the arts get left behind. So in order to foster an interest in the arts, and support the arts...we have created a scholarship, called the Richard and Terry Portner Fine Arts Prize," Richard Portner said. "We want to encourage the students that are interested that there is recognition and reward."

With plans for a free spring semester, the couple plans to escape to their home in South Philadelphia and soak up the culture. "There are museums, jazz, great food, and reasonable prices...it's just ideal," Terry Portner said. "It'll just be a wealth of riches for us," Richard Portner said. While Philadelphia is a convenient location to reach other nearby destinations, it is also a great place to escape the callous Vermont winters. "For some reason, winter usually

escapes South Philadelphia. It's shoved around a little bit on the sidewalk...but that's about it," Terry Portner said.

Aside from escaping to Philadelphia, the pair also hopes to travel overseas as well. "Lots of relaxation, lots of sight-seeing, and traveling to places we've always promised ourselves we wanted to go," Richard Portner said. Giving a more in depth explanation of their plans for the spring semester off, Terry Portner said, "Spain is coming up, we hope. Italy and Greece maybe. We'd like to go back to Russia." During the summer, they hope to continue being active in the Weather-vane Theater in Whitefield, New Hampshire, where Terry Portner is an active actress and Richard Portner is a managing director. "We'll still hang in there for some years until that goes away, and then staying in this area through the fall; the fall is gorgeous. It is the time of year we all wait for," Richard Portner said.



Richard and Terry Portner
Photograph by Tabitha Fitzgerald

A Fond Farewell to Bob Dixon

By Joshua James Gervais

After teaching his summer courses, Robert Dixon, professor of Social Science, will be retiring after almost 40 years at LSC. Dixon and his wife will be moving to an active retirement community in South Carolina. "I'll probably have to learn to play golf," Dixon said. Dixon's students know him by his trademark lecturing style, his political anecdotes, and commitment to teaching.

Dixon came to LSC in September of 1965, and has been here since with the exception of 1967 and 1968. Dixon said that he has known every LSC president except Rita Bole, whose name was given to the new building where his office currently sits during his last academic year. Only Professor of Fine & Performing Arts, Dorian McGowan, has been a member of the LSC faculty longer than Dixon.

"I grew up in New York, I grew up in Queens. My wife came from Portland Maine. We met in Boulder. We ended up moving here to the Northeast Kingdom, and now I think it's time for a new chapter," Dixon said. "As an undergraduate I had a socially minded background," Dixon said, "And I had my graduates work in political science."

One of the most satisfying aspects of his job was being able to reach students, Dixon said, "I think the fact that you can reach people is very important." He added that he hoped he was able to make his students more aware of parts of the political system they weren't aware of before. Dixon said that teaching at a small college like LSC has given him a greater opportunity to reach students. "I've enjoyed very much being a classroom teacher," Dixon said, "It has always been a pleasant part of my job."

Dixon stresses the importance of participating in the political process not just as a registered voter but as an informed voter. He often tells his students, "I don't care what you think, but I want you to think." Dixon tries not

to influence his students with his political views, but believes that you can't teach politics without personal politics coming into play. "I don't know if you can really if and truly [keep your views out of the discussion] if your teaching political science," Dixon said. Dixon adds that there's an obligation to inform students if something if opinion, "And it's not something to be memorized for an A+."

"I had become very active in Vermont, in the Democratic party," Dixon said. "I was for many years the secretary of the Vermont Democratic state committee. When I went to my last Democratic state committee meeting in 2002 I expressed the view that the democrats should not play games with campaign financing." After this the state Democratic Party went to the state attorney general's office to disqualify a candidate from receiving public financing. Dixon joined the Vermont Progressive Party. "Now I'm on the Progressive party state committee, and I am the Caledonian county chair," Dixon said. "But now I'm leaving Vermont," Dixon said, "So I will probably have to go down and rejoin the Democratic Party," since there is no Vermont Progressive party in South Carolina. During his time in the Democratic Party he was a Justice of the Peace, and during that time he performed 12 Civil Unions. "Most of them were out-of-staters," Dixon said, "Most of them were women, and most of them thought they were married but with slightly different terminology."

Dixon said that he tries to provide his students with relevant or topical examples

of how the material he teaches affects their lives; such as mentioning contributions made by Aramark's political action committee for a particular presidential hopeful. Dixon wasn't criticizing Aramark; he points it out to show how the concepts he teach connect to his student's lives.

"There's always a question of what direction the college will go," Dixon said, and that both career orientated majors and liberal arts majors are necessary for the college's well being. "People should graduate as full persons," Dixon said. "I would tell [LSC students] certainly to concentrate on their studies, but to tell them that they have a responsibility to become a broad person."

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Editorials

Full Speed Ahead: Welcome to the Adult Working World

By Nicole Miner

It is time for me to grow up. Not that I am not grown up already, but it is time to look for a job, get an apartment and make it on my own. Graduation is quickly approaching, and between the nightmares, sudden fits of nausea, and way too much work to do, I am totally excited. My Thesis is in and all graded, my classes are wrapping up, and even though it is short term (and I do mean VERY short) I know where I am going May 15th. I will be going home, something I never thought I would do. I always swore to myself that I would never go home, because if I went home it would mean I had failed in some way.

But now, I realize that going home is not all that bad. Sure, I have to deal with my little siblings begging me to play with them, and my parents asking me where I am going and when I will be home, but now I will be a college graduate, looking for jobs and, more importantly, an apartment.

I don't understand why everyone has all of a sudden become so intrigued by at where I am going after I graduate. I get looks of horror when I say I do not have a job yet. Right now I am more worried about getting all of my work done and actually getting my diploma. If I started to look for a job I would become obsessed with it and all of my work would take the back seat. Then I would not pass my classes, I would not graduate, and I would have to call all of the places I applied to and tell them I was no longer available for employment. I would rather go home for a couple of weeks, relax, search for the job that suits me best, and not have anything else to worry about. Except of course, that apartment I was talking about.

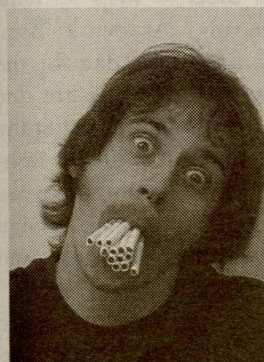
At first I was fine with going home, then I spoke to my sister and she made some comment about not coming home once she was in college and it made me feel as though she were ashamed of me for moving back in with my Dad.

I started to feel funny about the situation until I realized that her problem was that I would be moving back into my room, which has become her room since my departure for college. My sister did not want to give up any of her space to accommodate me for a few short weeks. Perhaps she is a bit ashamed of me, but I don't care. I am doing what I think is right for me. It may not be the plans I dreamed of having, whisking away to a fabulous six figure job in Paris, but they are plans nonetheless, and I am thankful to have a loving family that is willing to let not only me, but my girlfriend as well, crash at their place until we find our footing.

I wish all of the graduating seniors, whatever your plans, the best of luck and all the happiness in the world. Congratulations!!!

Ding Dongs & Goofballs

Think of a Stereotypical Clint Eastwood/Charlton Heston-esque Movie Character



By Dillon Eliassen

Lifted my head up, but the headache accompanying my hangover forced me to lay my head back down. I heard some glasses clinking together and I opened my eyes to take

in my surroundings. "Phat Kats? Damn," I mumbled. "Chad, I need an eye-opener." "By 'eye-opener' you mean a shot?" the bartender asked. "Is there any other kind?" I answered. This wasn't the first time I had spent the night at the bar, and it wasn't the first time I took the edge off at eight in the morning. Chad poured me a shot and I threw it back. As I slammed the glass down, the bar phone rang. Chad answered it, and then handed it to me. It was the editor of The Critic, Nicole. "Eliassen, where are you?"

"You called me here, didn't you? Obviously I'm where you called me at," I answered. The headache started to get worse.

"Well, we haven't gotten your story yet." I asked her what story she meant and she said, "The story about Aramark's costs dropping, and what it means for student budgets."

Through the haze I began to remember the story I was assigned. "Come on, talk about a boring story, give me something else."

"No, you were assigned this story, so get on it, Eliassen," Nicole said. I tried protesting again, but she cut me off. "Look, Eliassen, I don't have time for this right now, I've got a much bigger story we're working on. Apparently the rugby team disappeared two days ago, and no one's heard from them."

"The rugby team is gone? But they're not even playing right now," I said.

"I know, that's what makes it so weird; the whole team is gone, but their season doesn't start until next Fall." I asked to report that story, but Nicole replied, "You just handle the Aramark story, I need someone on this who isn't trying to drown his troubles in booze." I guess you could say I've got some demons.

I went to the office of the Food Service Director of Aramark. I told him I wanted to write a story about Aramark for The Critic, and asked if I could interview him. "I'm sorry, but it's Aramark policy to not release our budgets and other sensitive information to members of the press," Aramark's

manager answered. When I suggested that it sounded like Aramark had something to hide, Bruce laughed, "I wish there was something interesting for you to tell your readers, but the fact is there's just no story here."

I went to The Critic office to face the wrath of my editor because I had no story to write. When I came in, the whole office was talking about the missing rugby team. Apparently, all of their funding was cut three days before they all disappeared. When Nicole saw me, she walked right over, and I could see she was mad. Her cheeks were flushed, and her lips were quivering with rage.

"Jeez, you do smell like a brewery," she sniffed the air in front of me. "Did you accuse the director of Aramark of hiding information about a possible food ingredient conspiracy? I just got a call from Carol Moore, who is close friends with Aramark's manager, and she said a drunken reporter from The Critic was about to slander Aramark."

"Well, he refused to answer any of my questions and made it a point to tell me that there was no story," I defended myself. "Doesn't that seem shady to you?"

"Of course it does," Nicole shot back. "But Moore said that if we run a story about Aramark, LSC will cut what little funding we get from the school."

"But..." I began to protest. "You're off the story Eliassen! How can I take the word of one of my reporters who's a perpetual drunk? Now go home and dry out!" With that she turned around and went back to whatever she was doing. I left the office and headed back to the Stevens Dining Hall.

I told myself, I may be off the story, but I'm going to get to the bottom of why Aramark's manager was so opposed to me writing a story. I stood behind the dining hall, sipping from a flask and smoking 11 cigarettes at once when I noticed two Aramark employees loading materials into the back of a van with the Aramark logo painted on the side. The workers were moving rapidly between the dining hall and the van, and each time they walked out of the building carrying packages to the van, they would look around like they thought they were being watched. I hid behind a generator and watched them work. When they finished they got into the van, and being suspicious of their suspiciousness, I snuck into the back of the van and hid under a blanket. The van departed, and I could hear the driver and his co-worker talking to each other about how "this team will feed the campus for months."

The van stopped at a warehouse on

the outskirts of town. The driver and his pal got out and entered the warehouse. I waited five minutes and then followed them into the warehouse, using the door they used. I found myself inside a sort of locker room, with white coats hanging from pegs in the wall, with nametags and ID cards attached to the lapels of the coats. I put one on and walked into another, much larger room of the warehouse. It turns out the warehouse wasn't a warehouse at all; it seemed to be a meat processing plant.

I heard voices so I hid behind a big pile of clothes, in faded hues of green and yellow, so I wouldn't be spotted. As I was hiding I realized what I was hiding behind; the green and yellow clothes were the uniforms of the LSC Rugby team!

I peeked over the top of the pile of uniforms to see the two Aramark employees carrying in the packages they had loaded into the van earlier. Two other workers in the same type of white coat I was wearing took the packages and opened them, and placed the contents on a conveyor belt. To my horror, I saw limbs, torsos and heads being lifted out of boxes and placed on the belt. I recognized one of the faces: a member of LSC's Rugby team!

I shut my eyes, hoping I was seeing this as a result of too much whiskey, but when I reopened them, the body parts of LSC ruggers were traveling down the conveyor, into a large processing machine, and then out again. Moving out on the conveyor belt after the processor I recognized staples of LSC's dining hall and snack bar: strips of fire, sirloin burgers, waffle fries. On the side of the basin where all the food was being dumped into from off the conveyor belt were two large words: Aramark Green.

I stood up from behind the uniforms and ran out of the warehouse. I heard a voice behind me yell out, "Hey, who's that?" but I was running at full speed and didn't stop to see if they wanted to chat. I took the flask out of my pocket and threw it on the ground. My lungs were burning and my head was swimming; I felt like I had been running for days. My out of shape and whiskey soaked body struggled to maintain as I ran up the hill to LSC. I was still wearing the white Aramark coat when I burst into The Critic office. Everyone turned to look at me as I collapsed to my knees, raised my fists to the sky and yelled, "Aramark Green is made out of people! IT'S PEOPLE!"

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The Critic will not publish letters until we have confirmed the authorship of the letter. The Critic reserves the right to edit comments. Please send your letters to:

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Senior Week Festivities

By Katie Barrett

At the end of each year, seniors get a special week, with various events that occur through out the week. Senior week, is a time for the seniors to have one final blow out before they all graduate. The Robing Ceremony will be held on May 4, followed by commencement on the 14.

Events such as the Robing Ceremony, the Seniors vs. Faculty and Staff Ultimate Frisbee game are open to other students. The social at the Packing House, Social at President Moore's Home and Senior Dinner Cruise are only meant for seniors and their family members.

The big events on the Senior Week Calendar are the social at the packing house and the senior dinner cruise. As both these events are meant for mainly seniors, friends of graduating seniors may attend if they have been asked. Each senior is allowed one guest for the dinner cruise. The social at the Packing House is a two hour event that is aimed at keeping seniors together for some socializing and celebrating after the robing ceremony. "There hasn't traditionally been an event following the Robing ceremony, and the senior week committee thought it would be good to offer something," Hannah Manley, coordinator of senior week, said. Each senior is invited to partake at no cost to them, and are encouraged to bring a guest as space allows. The senior cruise is the highlight of the senior week events. The seniors will travel on chartered buses to Burlington where they will enjoy a formal dinner and cruise on Lake Champlain's Ethan Allen II. After dinner, seniors have the option of dancing as they will

have music provided by a DJ and after the boat docks, the group will have some free time in Burlington before returning to LSC, Manley said.

Although the activities do not change from year to year, the senior week committee is asked to come up with some new, low cost things that they could do to make it better for next year. As a result of this, they switched the faculty/staff versus senior's softball game to a game of ultimate Frisbee. Other things that have been added to this year's list of events are a 10% off bookstore sale for all seniors. A slide show has also been added that will be shown prior to the start of the Robing Ceremony. Another element that has been added this year is the social at the packing house. "I'm pleased with these additions, especially considering that there have only been six active committee members. I'm really hoping there is more interest from the class of 2007," Manley said.

Each year the senior week committee runs the proposed schedule by Leo Sevigny, Associate Dean of Student Affairs, for his approval before announcing the actual schedule. Senior week, however, has limited funds to work with. The dinner cruise is the most expensive and wouldn't be possible without the generosity of the LSC student government and parents of the seniors.

Friends of seniors can help out, any member of the 2007 class who would be interested in planning senior week, should get in touch with Manley before leaving at the end of the year. As soon as the fall semester starts, Manley plans to get the group of interested students together to start planning again.

Finals, Here are Some Tips and Tools to Help Pass

By Katie Barrett

With the end of the year approaching the word finals can send chills down the spines of many students. Finals are a scary thing for some, as cramming in a bunch of information in a short amount of time can lead students to believe that they will fail. For many students, finals are a time which can be especially stressful.

Often times when finals come around students are more likely to cram information for a test in a short amount of time, stay up later than normal, and even use caffeine. These methods are only adding to the stress of finals instead of helping. "Students don't realize that studying all night to cram is actually bad for them, it's more self destructive than helpful," Deb Bailin, Director of Academic Development, who works in the Academic Support office, said. According to the "Coping with Exams and Exam Anxiety" sheet found outside the academic support office, trying to attempt to study 24 hours a day, the efficiency and capacity for remembering information will rapidly decrease. It does not help to put added stress on yourself.

There are many ways that students can ease the stress of exams, and several places that students can go. The Academic Support office offers tips and tools to help students with taking finals. Students can go into Academic Support, sit down with someone and fill out a calendar, for the month, which allows the student to see when things are due and set up a time management schedule to make sure that the items that need to be done are completed in a timely fashion. "When students come to us with enough time between visits, and exams, we can help them with studying," Bailin said. "The more time a student has between each visit and the due dates, the more effective using the calendar can be."

Other methods are studying just a little each day instead of all at once. Being able to come up with methods for studying can help remember information that is needed for a final. Also working in study groups can be a very helpful tool. "Students can get into study groups to help them study; three seems to be a good number when studying," Bailin said. "Students can quiz each other and talk about the information. It is easier to remember a conversation than to remember information."

Another place that students can go is the Writing Center located next to academic support. When students have issues with writing papers, the writing center is a good place for students to go. Students can sit down, and get help with their paper and write it right there in the writing center. The writing center only has helpers until nine o'clock pm but can be opened by public safety for students to access. The library is also another place that students can go to study or even meet with study groups. During finals week the library hours are extended and sometimes offers a free cup of coffee to students after a specific hour.

For those students who can not get to the library or to the writing center, some things that students can do are go for a walk, or do something physical. "Often times when you feel as though you need a nap, it means your body is burnt out and needs some activity," Bailin said. You can even do some crunchy things just to have something. Take deep breaths, and try to relax and maybe you will find that when it comes time for finals, things might just get a little easier.

Lyndon State's Secret Summer Life

By Joshua James Gervais

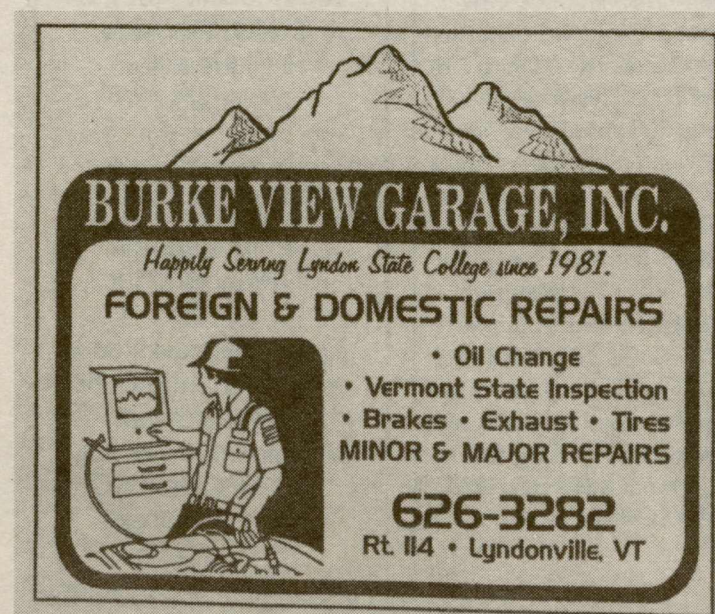
Believe it or not, there is life at LSC during the summer months. In addition to summer classes, LSC plays host to a variety of conferences and other groups that keep the campus active.

"No two days are ever the same," Dona Wheeler, Director of Conferences and Guest Relations, said. The groups that come to LSC over the summer include: sports camps, religious groups, and youth organization. There are also groups such as Med*Star, for women interested in careers in medicine, the American Society of Dowders, and a martial arts instruction camp. The Dowders have been coming for over 10 years, and the Green Mountain Running Camp has been for over 30 years, Wheeler said.

Wheeler said that conferences grew from five or six events a year to our current conference schedule, which can be found on the Conferences & Guest Relations section of the LSC website. "I think one of

my first summers we had about 1,000 guest nights," Wheeler said, adding that during 2005, that number had grown to over 13,000. Wheeler said that on an average summer, she employs five students to help facilitate the conferences. The conferences also make it possible to keep housekeeping and food service employees here over the summer. Wheeler said that these groups make use of the Alexander Twilight Theater, LSC's pool, and other resources. Some church groups simply use LSC as a place to sleep and eat while there're active to the surrounding community.

Wheeler said that over the summer, the Crevecoeur and Whitelaw residence halls will be taken offline for refurbishing. She added that this year's summer course options have been expanded, and that a floor of Rite Bole was being offered to students that want to stay on campus over the summer.



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Work Study Students Help Make LSC Tick

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Jennifer Aubin, Financial Aid Specialist states, "Not all students who are eligible for work study apply for it". At any given time during an academic year there are 200 work study students spread out amongst 50 departments at LSC, Aubin said.

Work study contracts are awarded based on various factors. Students who filled out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by February 15 and students who have the greatest monetary needs are the first to get work study, Aubin said.

LSC received \$197,000 from the Federal

Government for this academic year, Tanya Bradley, Director of Financial Aid, said. LSC then contributes 25 percent of what it gets from the government for the work study fund, Bradley said.

Having a work study position is similar to have a real world job, Aubin said. If a student or his or her supervisors find the job an ill fit for the student Aubin is the first to hear about it. The student is told about other available positions on campus but it is up to the student if they go and apply, Aubin said. Departments do use one another for references and sometimes those references don't check out, Aubin said.

Fun Page

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Horoscopes

By Madame Divine

Aries- March 21-April 19: Take a moment away from the stresses of studying, and relax. It's important to have a clear mind for the upcoming weeks. Spend some time with family, friends, or significant others.

Taurus- April 20-May 20: Never underestimate your abilities. You are destined for great things and keep up your hard work.

Gemini- May 21-June 21: Beware of spiritual libations, they may rob you of an opportunity of romance with a Scorpio, or perhaps a Libra.

Cancer- June 22-July 22: You will meet a famous radio personality who will call you names while you demean yourself to earn his favor.

Leo- July 23-August 22: The stars are not in your favor, but you will overcome it. Get that cough looked at and avoid Tuesdays.

Virgo- August 23-September 22: You will feel angry at a loved one. Don't mess with them though, they'll win. Try to channel your energies towards something productive.

Libra- September 23-October 22: It is time for new beginnings, so fall back on old friends. They'll keep you from forgetting who you are at least until it changes.

Scorpio- October 23-November 21: Change is bad-its time to do something about it. Stick to your games even when logic tells your differently.

Sagittarius- November 22- December 21: Your spirit may be flying low, but brighter days are up ahead. By the middle of the week, opportunity will find you.

Capricorn- December 22-January 19: Keep an open mind. You may not agree with someone, but it's important to give them the benefit of the doubt. You may learn something that you never knew.

Aquarius- January 20-February 18: Have a positive outlook on life. This kind of attitude will help you in your personal and professional life. Everyone enjoys being around a happy person.

Pisces- February 19- March 20: Tell that special someone how you feel. It may be intimidating at first, but you will be glad to let that person know you care.

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Charlie Martin Slays Dragons in His New Book

By Crystal Johnson

Charlie Martin, a recently published author of the book "Shadowslayers," gave a presentation of his book in the Student Center on April 17th at 5 p.m. Although the audience was not packed full of bodies waiting to hear about a kingdom torn apart by a fierce dragon's reign, or the secrets of Blackwood, his presentation was very well received and Martin was still quite happy with the outcome.

The recently released book follows the tragic battle against the dragon-god, Derzezen, who has caused the kingdom of Blackwood great anguish. Will the small community fall victim to the dragon's terror? Will Garyl, the unlikely hero of the story, avenge his wife's

death and defeat the beast that will certainly bring the world to ruin? The pages hold the answer and must be read in order for the answer to be revealed.

As he jokes with students about taking a pen name of Steve Quing (pronounced, king), he also lets it be known how much enjoyment he gets from reading such comics as "The Hulk" and "The Green Lantern." This is what connects him to his fans; the ability to let it be known that he is just himself, and tries not to be like anyone else on the market.

Citing "The Writer's Market" as a vast epitome of knowledge for those who wish to publish their own work, Martin explains how he was struck by

the need to write. His story begins not long ago, when as a child he was given a copy of "The Hobbit" by J.R.R. Tolkien. In high school, where Martin, a St. Johnsbury native, discovered Dungeons and Dragons, he began to write for his English classes and decided he would try his hand at writing for a profession. What he found was that getting published was very difficult without an agent, but getting an agent was difficult without first being published. Thus, he submitted story after story and spent most of his time being a freelance writer.

At The University of Vermont, Martin currently works as an academic assistant but he is also a graduate with his Bachelor's Degree in English. He ex-

plains that by studying English, he got to "go back...refine and improve...figure out what I want to do." He decided to focus on Literature, which he says "is harder to do." Finally, after submitting his manuscript for "Shadowslayers" to publishers he looked up in "The Writer's Market," he received a letter of acceptance from Port Town Publishing. The rest, as they say, is history. His book can be bought online, and his official website keeps fans posted on news and also allows them access to links to where his book can be purchased. If this sounds like a book that would be of interest to you, visit his website, at: <http://www.charliemartin.us>

Get Ready for the Real World

By Katie Barrett

Graduation is quickly approaching for some seniors, and life after graduation can be a scary thing. Career Services Director, Linda Wacholder, can help students when it comes time for them to find internships or even jobs in their field of studies. There are three general categories that students fall into. The first is for students who are compelled to get a job right after graduation. The second is for students who feel okay with graduation, and will begin looking for a job upon graduation, and lastly students who wish to travel, take some time off, or find a summer job until the end of summer or beginning of the fall, Wacholder said. "A number of students make sure they can graduate before they look for a job," Wacholder said.

Every year, Wacholder sends out surveys to the past years graduating class to determine the job placement rate. According to the 2005 graduates surveys, which were sent out in February, 93% of the students who responded stated that they were working in jobs in their field. "I currently do not have a job after college; however I have gotten a lot of help from the Department faculty, and LSC Alum. Searching for positions and locations on the Internet especially places centered directly toward my field can be very helpful in finding the job within my field," senior, Stephanie Rose, said.

When employers in the surrounding areas are looking for applicants often times they will go through Career Services to help them find an appropriate employee. Due to LSC's location, it isn't large enough to support a job fair. However, when an employer wished to come to the campus, Wacholder will help advertise that company. Wacholder also sends out information about future job fairs in the surrounding areas that students can go to, however getting students to attend can sometimes be difficult.

"I have Alumni, Teachers, Internet and Career Services that can all help me look for a job. I feel like my changes are pretty good," Robynn Beams, a senior, said.

If you are still feeling a little concerned about finding a job after college, Wacholder offers a course in the second semester of every year called "Life Beyond the Classroom." The class is a one credit mini-course, offered to seniors, that teaches them how to write resumes, cover letters, tips on interviewing and even finding a job within a specific location. Wacholder, also offers "Dinner with the Boss" where past alumni are asked to meet with students and establish a network with them.

For those who are interested in finding an internship or job after college, there are always jobs posted for all students to access. To find these visit: www.lyndonstate.edu/careers

LSC Attends National Writers Workshop

By Tabitha Fitzgerald

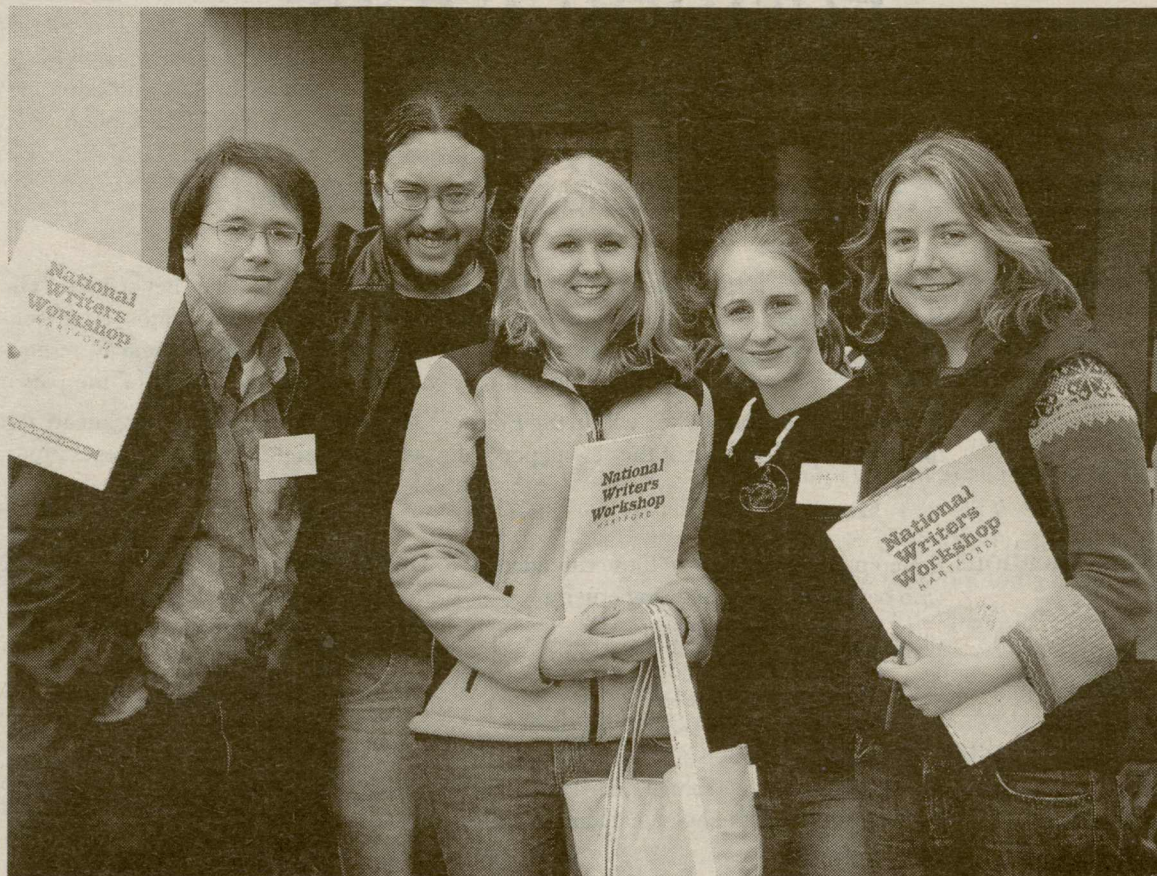
On the weekend of April 21, a group of LSC students attended the 12 annual National Writers Workshop (NWW) that was held in Hartford Connecticut at the Sheraton Hotel. The conference is put on and supported by the Hartford Daily Courant. The agenda for the weekend was filled with writers of many topics. There were lectures on fiction, journalism, non-fiction, memoirs and tips for all types of writers. The writers were from all over the world and a few were Pulitzer Prize winners.

Denis Horgan, the chairman of the NWW, estimated that about 725 people were in attendance. The final count wouldn't be conducted until after the conference was over. Horgan figured that the number in attendance didn't exceed 725 people because the hotel couldn't hold much more than that, and they were close to full capacity. This is also approximately the same number that was in attendance last year. The speakers gave their lectures in two fashions. Some held in a large tent or the hotel's grand ballroom where everyone in attendance would gather to hear them. At other times two to seven speakers would be held at the same time in different areas of the hotel. This offered a wide variety of topics to be discussed and gave guests a choice of who they wanted to hear. In total, 31 speakers appeared and all were introduced by members of the Courant or by members of the NWW.

The conference went well though there were a few problems. Two important speakers, Mike Wallace of 60 minutes and Matt Taibbi, contributing editor of the Rolling Stone, cancelled. In place of Wallace, David Halberstam, a winner of numerous journalism awards, spoke

about his 35 plus years as a reporter and writer. Another mishap was the weather. All of the large sessions were to be held outside under a large tent, but due to the rain and cold temperatures the larger sessions were moved inside. A third mishap disrupted the last day of events. Sunday the lunch break was interrupted by loud sirens and the command to evacuate the building. As the 725 guests of the conference as well as all other hotel guest piled onto the lawn the Hartford fire department pulled in. "It's not a fire, we think a water pipe burst," said Donna Larcen of the Hartford Courant. Within 20 minutes people were allowed into the building and the conference continued.

Though all of the writers were seasoned veterans of the business, there was still an air of "magic" in each of the speakers. "Writing is magic," said Nuala O'Faolain, an Irish woman who opened for the conference, as she talked about the feelings and experience of writing. Robert Olen Butler discussed where the writing comes from when writing fiction. "What you remember is journalism, what you forget goes into the compost of the imagination," this is where you write from, said Butler. Halberstam said that the prizes and money are not important but "learning, being paid to learn, the thrill and the growth," are the rewards of a writer. With words like this being echoed throughout the conference people streamed from lecture to lecture with wide eyes and little sign of fatigue. One of the last speakers, Simon Winchester, ended with a piece of advice for the audience, "To be a writer you must never lose your wonder of the world."



LSC students at The National Writers Conference in Connecticut. Pictured above left to right, Josh Gervais, Keith Whitcomb, Gillian Moore, Tabitha Fitzgerald and Mary Wheeler.

Mailroom Thefts Frustrate Faculty

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

Thousands of dollars worth of books have been stolen from the faculty mailroom Elaine Wilkinson, Professor of Natural sciences, said. Since last November seven packages of books Wilkinson had requested have turned up missing. Wilkinson said that the books she had requested were chemistry books she was reviewing for use in class. The average chemistry textbook can cost up to \$200 per book, Wilkinson said.

Wilkinson has since filed more than one complaint to Public Safety and to the LSC administration but so far the problem has not been solved. The only response so far has been to lock the faculty mailroom after 7 pm, Wilkinson said. Wilkinson also brought the matter to attention at a faculty meeting. At the meeting, Wilkinson moved to keep packages in the mailroom at the bottom floor of Vail. All but two people voted for the move.

The mailroom is limited in space, Wayne Hamilton, Dean of Administration, said. The hours are also limited, so storing packages in the mailroom is not the best option, Hamilton said. Hamilton, along with Robert Bean, Director of Account-

ing Services, had been put in charge of coming up with a solution to the theft Wilkinson said. Aside from remaining diligent about keeping the faculty mailroom locked, Hamilton said that other measures such a lockable storage container were being looked into, although no definite solution has been reached.

Wilkinson isn't the only faculty member to experience missing packages. Julie Theoret, Professor of Mathematics and Computer Sciences, believes that last fall she had two books taken from her office. She also has reason to believe that packages have gone missing in her mailbox, Theoret said. When a package is too large to fit in the faculty members mailbox, a green card is placed in the box indicating that the package has arrived for them and is sitting below the mailboxes on a shelf. Theoret, along with Wilkinson and other faculty, have found green card in their boxes, but no corresponding packages bellow, Theoret said.

None of Theoret's missing packages were packages she ordered. Professors will often be sent free books to review for use in their class, Theoret said. Other faculty like Wilkinson and Lori Werdenschlag, Professor of Psychology, have ordered books and not received them. Werdenschlag had ordered five packages

of books and only received two. "I was a little curious as to why I'd see the cards and not the books," Werdenschlag said. Werdenschlag also said that she does not have 100 percent proof that her books were stolen.

As of the week of March 20 the problem of stolen books is still around, said Wilkinson. "I've spent so much energy and time... it's just ridiculous," Wilkinson said. "I have not been able to review a single book since last fall."

Wilkinson said she is close to calling the cops. "Stealing mail is a federal offense," Wilkinson said. LSC picks its mail up at the post office and brings it to the school. "It's only a federal offense to steal mail within the postal system," Bean said. It would not be a felony to steal mail from the LSC campus, Bean said.

To solve the problem Bean and Hamilton have been reviewing the way LSC handles its mail. "Basically this is the same way we've been doing it for 20 years. I'm at a loss as to why it's so prevalent now," Bean said.

Wilkinson is frustrated over the situation. Wilkinson said it takes up much of her time and energy which she could be spending teaching. "No one is willing to do anything about it," Wilkinson said.

Women and Their Sexexpectations Exposed

By Tabitha Fitzgerald

In today's American society, gender is supposed to play a small role in daily life. Male or female, guy or girl, is supposed to have little significance in the way things work and the thought process of an equal society. But how true is this? Females and males are two completely different creatures when it comes to looks, actions and emotions. This is especially true when it comes to sex and relationships.

Are girls really creatures of the heart? Do guys remember their "first time?" Do girls do all the prepping because guys expect it or is it all in their minds? What does one gender expect of the other and are these expectations met? These are the questions that flooded my mind as I set out to ask my female peers about sex.

Expectations can lead to pain and disappointment. But expectations are something that all members of the human race have in one form of another. I found that women had great expectations of what guys were going to be like and what their first relationship would entail. "I expected him to be fairytale perfect," Torre Colburn, a sophomore, said. When asked what she had expected with her first boyfriend. "I expected an all around perfect gentlemen," Heather Gillian, a freshman, said. Many girls have the impression that guys are suppose to fit the traditional roles. "I expected him to be the one who paid, and put the moves on me," Jessica Millhiser, a junior, said. "I always thought guys were supposed to pull out your chair, open doors and stuff like that," said Gillian. But all of these girls said their expectations were far from met. They found that guys were just as awkward and uncomfortable as they were. They also felt like guys had expectations of their own.

"I thought I had to be everything anyone could want. A good cook, a house cleaner, friend, one of the guys," Shandi Barclay, a senior, said. "Some guys are shallow and like shallow girls, so we try to live up to that." These feeling were shared by the other women, too. "I felt I had to be pretty, thin, wear makeup, basically the stereotype. I thought that was

what guys were interested in," Millhiser said. All of the women said they felt they had to act and look a certain way to be what guys wanted. When asked where these ideas came from, not one of the women mentioned they came from a guy. All of them did mention that things like magazines, television and Hollywood gave them their expectations and an idea of what was expected of them.

These fairytale, media based beliefs even carried over to sex. Many of these women said they had a mapped out picture of what sex would be. When the big event finally happened they remember every detail and every disappointment. "I didn't have any expectations on what was supposed to happen, but I did have an idea of how it all would look. I pictured candles, music and a big, soft bed," Karyn Chapin, a junior, said. Other women agreed on this romantic overview of the big event. Barclay said she had also expected candles and a romantic setting. All of the women also shared the feelings of disappointment when the experience was over. "It happened spontaneously and I had thought it would be more planned out," Barclay said. "I had expected it to be a great experience and that it would feel wonderful. It didn't and it wasn't nearly as exciting as I thought it was going to be," remembered Millhiser.

Though all of the females interviewed were disappointed with their first encounters, they believed that was because it was "just sex". "Until I was in love I felt sex was overrated," said Colburn. She also mentioned that being in a real relationship made all the difference. To Millhiser, having deep feelings for a person changed the encounter from "sex" to a more connecting experience. "Being in love makes it better. You feel okay to be yourself," Millhiser said.

So if "making love" takes being in love what is the point where dating and lust becomes a relationship and love according to a woman? "When you consider your relationship exclusive and have honest communication then it can be considered

a real relationship," Millhiser said. This was a point that all of the women agreed on. Communication and exclusiveness is the making or breaking of any romantic relationship. "When you no longer feel you have to make yourself up then you can have a real relationship," Chapin said. All of the other females I talked to mentioned that after they had been in a relationship for a little while they didn't feel they had to try so hard to look good or fit the ideals. They felt that they could be themselves. Gillian said that a woman knows she is in love when she has been with a person long enough for the newness to wear off and she still finds her guy charming and amazing. All of the ladies said that deep feelings about a person, being comfortable with yourself and the absence of awkwardness cross the relationship over from casual to serious. This helps build a stronger relationship and consequently, better sex.

So now that I had heard what women tend to expect from men and what they don't necessarily get, I wanted to know some of the deeper stuff. I wanted to know some of their true feelings and gripes about the opposite sex. What did they think guys were like? What kind of stereotypes do women set for their male counter parts? The women had a lot to say. "Guys are so much more private," Millhiser said, "we want to know details. Guys are happy to tell us nothing about them selves or of their plans." Chapin had ideas along the same lines. "They expect us to trust them to protect us and take care of us," said Chapin, but she didn't feel guys were willing to return that confidence or trust. "Guys expect the relationship to be equal," Colburn said, "but if you do more, are better at sports or make more money, then they get upset." She felt this attitude was far from equal and only set the relationship up for disappointment on both sides.

"I think girls compromise more than guys do," Millhiser said. She went on to say that in the beginning of a relationship, guys do all of the cute, romantic little things. Such as give flowers and saying I love you. "After you've been in

a relationship for a while they don't do that stuff anymore. They assume you just know," said Millhiser. Barclay said she felt women tend to think about relationships as long term. She said that guys, even when in a relationship, try not to think about the future and commitment.

All of the women I talked to had similar ideas about sex and relationships. But they all had been taught similar things about how ladies are suppose to treat sex when they were growing up. "I was taught you shouldn't have sex. It is a bad thing. More so because I'm a girl," Millhiser said. Chapin said she was raised to believe girls should be quieter, shouldn't swear, have long hair and be appropriate. Gillian said that while growing up there was a sense that as a woman you were "expected to comply." So while much of what women expect and believe comes from media, there is some influence from parents as well.

So if girls have this kind of influence in their lives, do guys? If guys have the same access to media and parental influence as girls, do they expect girls to act this way? By the way girls primp, act, think, and talk many would think so. There still seems to be a traditional influence on both genders. But for how much longer? These tides seem to be changing. "I can't say that guys are more physical because I am a really physical girl," Millhiser said, "It's becoming more like this." And as for primping, there is a change going on here as well. "I don't wear make-up," Chapin said, "I feel I can be pretty and feminine without it." Gillian said that she wants to make a good first impression on a guy, but after that she said she doesn't spend that much time on how she looks.

With this vast range of opinions and thoughts on sex, relationships, and expectations there is obvious stereotyping of the male side of the human race. Women have set up an interesting stage for guys to give their input. So how about it guys? Heads up, your chance is coming in the next issue.

Travel Biggest Expense for LSC Sports Teams

By Dillon Eliassen

The costs of sports teams traveling to other colleges to participate in games and matches take up most of the athletics department budget, Lyndon State College Director of Athletics, Christopher Ummer, said.

Each team gets a different amount of money from the school every year, but the men's and women's teams of each sport get about the same amount of funding. The basketball teams receive the most amount of money. After basketball, the baseball and softball teams receive the second most amount of money, followed by the soccer teams, and then tennis and cross country. Basketball gets about \$3000 more a year than baseball and softball, Ummer said, and this is due to the number of games the basketball teams play each season.

The travel expenses that LSC pay for are the costs of charter busses, gas, food, and hotels if the team needs to stay away overnight. Other expenses for sports teams are paying referees to officiate games, supplies and equipment, and replacement equipment that might become damaged during the season. Baseball and softball have the largest allocations for equipment, and tennis and cross country receive the least amount for equipment.

The travel expenses for LSC are going to be higher next year because LSC is leaving the NAIA and joining the NCAA. Because LSC is leaving the conference, the school has to pick other schools to play to fill up their schedule. When a college asks to play another col-

lege, the newer school will play away. Since LSC has to choose different teams, a lot of the games will be played away this year, and the LSC athletics budget will have to allocate more funds for travel.

Paying for officials is also a big expense and different sports have more games that they play, so those sports have higher official's costs. Referees are also paid differently, based on what sport they are officiating. Baseball umpires get paid by the doubleheader, and basketball refs get paid by the individual game. Both sports have over 30 games on their schedule, but the cost of officials for baseball is about half that as basketball.

There are certain expenses that LSC won't pay for, but each team has to pay for themselves. These include if a team wants to buy warm-up uniforms, team jackets or other equipment the team might want that the school thinks isn't essential to the sports program.

This past winter break the baseball and softball teams went to Florida to practice and play scrimmage games. For the past four years, the women's basketball team has flown to Florida after New Years to play in a basketball tournament. When a team travels outside of New England, the team must pay for the expenses, not LSC. LSC pays for teams to travel during the regular and post seasons, but if a team wants to travel outside of the region to practice or participate in a tournament, the traveling expenses are paid by the teams.

In the past couple of years, the

LSC athletics department has provided some money to coaches for travel expenses when they go to high schools to recruit players for sports teams. In previous years, a coach would have to foot the bill for travel expenses to different schools when going on recruiting trips.

Women's basketball coach, David Mellor, suggests LSC provide funding for travel gear, such as equipment bags and warm-up uniforms. "It's nice if a team is dressed the same when they travel to other schools," Mellor said. "It's a sense of team unity."

This is only Ummer's second year as Director of Athletics, but Mellor is pleased with Ummer's performance so far. "Since Chris has become Director of Athletics he's worked to improve things financially, and otherwise, for athletics, and everyone appreciates it."

The LSC baseball team organizes bottle drives, runs a Hit-A-Thon in the fall, and holds a dinner and dance with the men's basketball team. Baseball players raise money during the Hit-A-Thon by asking for pledges to donate money based on how far players hit a baseball. For example, if someone pledges a quarter for every foot the ball travels after being hit, and a player hits a ball 200 feet, the baseball team receives a \$50 pledge. For the dinner and dance, which was held this year on April 22, the baseball and men's basketball teams charge \$100 per ticket to attend. Everyone who buys a ticket is entered into a drawing, and the winner receives a

\$1500 cash prize. Everyone who attends gets a door prize, most of them being gift certificates donated by area businesses.

The women's soccer team has worked the Caledonian County Fair, helping greeting people and selling wrist bands. They also receive donations, and this past year received a donation for \$1000 from a player's mother. The soccer team sent half of the donation to a Hurricane Katrina relief fund.

The basketball teams raise money during the Alumni golf tournament by selling whole sponsorships, basically advertising, to local residents and businesses, and by helping out the day of the tournament. Additionally, a money raffle is usually held at home games during the season to raise money for the teams.

One of the biggest sources of fund raising for the women's basketball team is by running camps and clinics. During the summer the women's basketball team holds weeklong day camps for girls in their middle and high school years. About 80 to 100 kids attend the day camps, which are usually held in July. LSC also hosts a tournament for girls varsity high school basketball teams that the LSC basketball players help run. During the fall the team hosts clinics on Sundays teaching special skills to younger basketball players.

The basketball camps and clinics also act as a promotion for enrollment at LSC. If a high school senior playing or practicing at LSC has a good impression of the basketball program here, they might want to apply to attend LSC.

Ultimate Frisbee: Not Your Typical Club

By Joshua James Gervais

With winter behind us the students can now participate in outdoor activities that don't involve snow. This year there is a new option, an Ultimate Frisbee club.

"We're not your typical club," Tracy Anketell, junior meteorology major said, "Ultimate can be considered a sport for the misfits. The variety of people the sport attracts is amazing."

"All anyone has to do to join the club is to show up during one of our practices," Anketell said, "If you enjoy sports or any type of competition then I highly suggest coming to check us out." Anketell said they plan to run two or more tournaments each year. For fundraising they will be selling specially made disks at their tournaments, and spring day.

"While we were outside in the fall we seemed to have more interest in the club," Anketell said, "They tend to loose a little interest when we're stuck inside during the winter but we've had probably about 35-40 people at least come out a couple times and we have about 15-20 people who come more regularly."

"Because of the nature of the sport people developed an interest and suddenly they want to play all the time and then they want to compete once they know what they're doing," Anketell said.

LSC Splits Doubleheader with Farmington, Sweeps Southern VT

By Dillon Eliassen

The Lyndon State College baseball team has advanced their record to 8-12 for the season so far, and Jordan Royer was named Sunrise Conference Player of the Week for the week of April 10-16.

LSC hosted the University of Maine-Farmington on April 12, losing to Farmington in the first game, but then bouncing back to win the second game. Nicholas Rivers took the mound for LSC for the first half of the doubleheader. Jordan Royer hit two for three, getting on with a double, scoring a run, and batting in one run during LSC's 12-3 loss against Farmington. Jesse Hersey was LSC's starting pitcher for game two. Royer hit two more doubles that day, a home run, and scored four runs and four RBIs. Rory Whittemore hit three for four and drove home three runs. Leon Feerick and Rob Malloy contributed two hits, two runs, and one RBI a piece for LSC's 15-11 victory over Farmington.

On April 14 LSC traveled to Bennington to play Southern Vermont College. Jesse Ballard pitched a complete game for LSC's 7-1 win. Royer hit two more doubles, scored a run, and hit two runners home. Whittemore hit three for four and scored two runs, while Mike Swan was two for four and scored one run. Brent Cox started on the mound for game two, while Royer led LSC's offense to a runaway 30-13 victory over SVC. Royer hit a dinger and scored six and batted in four runs, hitting four for seven. Feerick had four runs, three RBIs, a double and a triple, while Hersey went four for six, and Ryan Wimble batted three for three.

Despite scoring thirty runs against SVC, Hornet's baseball head coach Ryan Farley thought LSC

could have done better against Southern Vermont. "We're trying to play at a certain level of competition," Farley said. "They shouldn't have scored 13 runs." The Hornets had six errors that game.

LSC played Norwich University in Northfield on April 19. Rob Malloy hit three for four, Feerick went three for three, and Hersey, Whittemore and Mike McCarron were each two for four. Nicholas Rivers pitched a complete game and Brent Cox hit a two run homer in LSC's 12-4 victory over Norwich. Matthew Picard started on the mound for game two, which Norwich edged out LSC 9-8. Brent Cox hit two doubles, batted in two runs, and scored one. Malloy and Whittemore each hit three for three and scored one run and one RBI.

LSC hosted Castleton State College for a doubleheader on April 20. Swan hit two for four and scored a run, Royer hit two for two with an RBI, and Sorenson started on the mound during LSC's 7-2 loss. "We made two costly errors that led to four runs," Farley said of game one. "We have to play better defense." Game two of the day was worse for the Hornets. Jordan Barnes started the game, but was relieved after three innings by Sorenson. Royer and Jordan Wells each hit two for three during the 11-0 shutout by Castleton.

For the weekend of April 22-23, LSC hosted rivals Fisher College. Fisher swept LSC on day one, losing 4-13 in game one, and 4-6 game two. The games on Sunday, the 23rd were canceled due to rain. LSC hosts the Sunrise Conference Tournament from April 28-30.

The Critic

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Katie Barrett and Jess Rexford reading The Critic outside of the Student Center.
Photograph by Tabitha Fitzgerald

Don't Worry Your Credits Still Count

By Joshua James Gervais

LSC recently filled an interim report to New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), the organization which accredits LSC. Without accreditations an LSC degree would be almost useless and no LSC student would be able to receive federal financial aid.

According to the Standards for Accreditation, NEASC is one of six regional groups in the United States that accredits educational institutions. NEASC sets 11 standards that colleges, such as LSC, must fulfill. These standards are Mission and Purposes, Planning and Evaluation, Organization and Governance, The Academic Program, Faculty, Students, Library and Other Information Resources, Physical and Technological Resources, Financial Resources, Public Disclosure, and Integrity.

NEASC sends out a group to visit schools every ten years, Bruce Berryman, professor of meteorology, said. In addition, schools must collect a document describing how they fulfilled the NEASC standards, called a self study. "The report is a review of the entire institute," Berryman said; he has headed up the committee responsible for the self studies since LSC's 2000 review. The self study for the year 2000 was 100 pages long with another 100 pages of background and appendixes, Berryman said, and the self study took three years to complete.

Five years after a filing their normal report, schools must submit an interim report. "Higher education is changing so much these days," Berryman said, and it changes so fast that ten years is too long to wait between visits.

After LSC's 2000 review, the school was in such a state of flux that the NEASC wanted a special report in 2003, Berryman said, in 2000 the school gained a President, an updated mission statement, and it reorganized its administrative structure. In addition the Vermont State Colleges were also updating their mission statement, Berryman said.

When evaluating a college on campus the NEASC sends a group of ten people with knowledge from the different parts of the NEASC standards list, Berryman said. Berryman has been on three such teams. "What you see are the different ways college approach their problems," Berryman said, "Which broadens a person's ideas of what we could do here."

Lyndon States Own Ebay Celebrity

By Amanda Wozniak

"Win a date, help pay for college," was what the title of the eBay auction page read. LSC student Meghan Cosby decided when she had to take out a loan in order to register for next semester's classes she would auction off a date with herself on the well known website eBay to make money to help pay for college.

Cosby, with the help of a friend posted the page on Wednesday, March 22. The page included photographs of Cosby and a description of the date. The date would consist of a fancy dinner at Subway, before going to the Packing House. She advised the bidders that they must be 21 years of age because drinking is a must. Another statement included on the page was "creeps need not apply." The page cost 40 cents. "I thought it was a smart idea, so many people go on eBay, someone would help me out," said Cosby.

After the page was posted Cosby's friends heard about the idea. Some fellow LSC students started off the bidding. By Friday there were already 21 bids and more than 1,200 views of the sight. The bidding was up to \$25.00.

Not long after the page was posted the Caledonian Record caught wind of the site. They contacted Meghan to do an interview and she agreed. It was Saturday March 25, when the story was published. Cosby said, regarding the paper, "Once I picked up the paper I was shocked to see I made the front page." The article "LSC Student Finds A Way To Help Pay Her College Expenses" and a photo of Cosby were printed side by side. Cosby said that this is when the bids really started coming in.

It was around this time Cosby got an offer from one man for \$100 to go to a Yankees game. After some research Meghan found there was no game scheduled for the date the man had given. The bidding continued to go up and eventually peaked at \$205.00. However, fake bids began to come in. It was now Saturday and when the bidding was around \$1 billion. Cosby then informed her mother that she was on the front page of the Caledonian Record. Her mother sounding concerned asked why. Cosby explained the auction to her mother. She laughed and told her daughter she was crazy. Her father didn't have the same reaction. He, being concerned for his daughter's safety asked her to take down the page and she respected his wishes.

Sunday, Meghan Cosby was contacted by Eric Berry, the owner of Subway in Lyndonville. He told her that if the date took place he would provide the dinner for free and bring in a news camera. He thought it would be a good promotional event. Cosby regretted to inform him that the auction page was taken down by her.

The next day, Cosby was woken up by the telephone. It was an LSC office informing her that New England Cable News was trying to get in touch with her. When she called them back she discovered that they wanted to do an interview with her. She told them the auction was no longer open for bidding, but they insisted. Meghan then called her father to ask permission to post the auc-

tion back up on eBay. After her father's approval, Cosby and a friend had her page up and running again.

On March 27, New England Cable News came to the LSC campus and interviewed Meghan in the Rita Bole Complex. The interview took place in her suite and dorm room. The interview was filmed and broadcasted the same day. As if that wasn't enough excitement for one day, Meghan received a message from 92.3 Free FM, and radio in New York City wanting to do an interview as well. Cosby didn't return the call. However, they called her back setting up an interview at 9:00am on March 29. During that interview, the bidding was at \$46.00. One and half hours after the radio interview, the bidding was at \$105.00 and still rising. By March 30, the bidding was up to \$188.50 to go on a date for one night with Meghan.

Meghan recalled a bidders question as "How much for the weekend." The man offered to pay for a flight to Dallas for a weekend and home. Meghan's response to the question was \$20,000 and I want to bring two friends. She went out that night. When she returned home to refresh and check her page she was disappointed that eBay had removed the auction because they felt it contained adult material.



Meghan Cosby posing outside LSC. Photograph by Tabitha Fitzgerald

Ding Dongs & Goofballs

Girl, I See Your Money Maker



By Dillon Eliassen

It's finally nice outside, and that means people are dressing lighter, finally able to shed the bearskins that we drape ourselves in to keep us warm against the long, bitter Vermont winters. Everyone has traded in their coats, long johns and snowshoes for t-shirts, shorts and sandals. Lately with the warm weather, I've noticed a lot of guys wearing undershirts commonly known as "wifebeaters," or as my father's generation calls them, "Guinea T's."

Does it strike anyone else as a little odd that "wifebeater" is the commonly accepted label for those shirts? Men and women call them wifebeaters, it's not like it's an inside joke us men share. Has American white trash so permeated our culture that we have a shirt named after domestic violence? Is this a fashion trend that owes its promotional consideration to "Cops" and the "Blue

Collar Comedy Tour?" Calling them wifebeaters implies that all men who wear them hit their spouses, and vice versa. This just can't be; there have to be some men who beat their wives in leisure suits, or bowling shirts, maybe even clown costumes. I understand calling them Guinea T's, because as we all know, male Italians of all ages always wear those shirts, without exceptions.

My roommate, the 17th century political philosopher Matthew T. Wojcik, has a funny story concerning wifebeaters. When he was younger, his mother and he were shopping for clothes, and he wanted to get some shirts. They couldn't find the section where the underwear was, so they had to ask a sales person. Woj's mom didn't want to ask the sales person, who was a woman, where the wifebeaters were because she thought the term was inappropriate. "Do you have those shirts, they're not T-shirts, and they're not tank-tops, you wear them under your dress shirts, you know..." Woj's mom tried to describe the shirts. The saleslady had no idea what she meant, and finally asked, "Oh, you mean wifebeaters?" Woj's mom had to say yes, she meant wifebeaters. It's rough when a wife has to buy something called a wifebeater. It seems kind of mean.

I think a woman who sells clothes that refers to those shirts as wifebeaters is like a woman who dances to a misogynistic rap song; they should know better. A lot of rap songs are loaded with sexist and misogynistic lyrics where women are demeaned and treated as sexual objects, and I've seen countless women dancing to these songs. There's no subtlety to Lil' Jon's song "Get Low," or in the label wifebeater. The meanings are too obvious to ignore, yet they're accepted with a disturbing nonchalance. I think Umbrella should get involved.

If we're going to come up with names for articles of clothing, why stop with wifebeaters? What about the Deadbeat Dad? That would be a Members Only jacket. Let's start calling trench coats Flashers, and cardigan sweaters Sexual Predators. Is there a specific blouse or pants suit a woman wears if she beats her husband? If there are wifebeaters, there have to be husbandhitters, right? And for those girls who wanna get wasted but don't have enough cash; throw on a Money Maker; it's the top of a thong that peeks over the waistline of those trendy butt smuggling jeans, as if to say, "hey sucker, buy me a drink!"

Summer Reading

This issue of *The Critic* contains articles written by a Creative Non-fiction class. Inside you will find articles on tattoos, STDs, features on fascinating members of the LSC community, and much, much more. This is an issue of *The Critic* to keep all summer; bring it to the beach, save it for a coffee break, and share it with your family. There is something in this issue for everyone, so open it up and enjoy!

Living and Dealing with Herpes

Editor's note: We have honored the request of the author of the following article to remain anonymous

Studies show that more than 500,000 Americans are diagnosed with genital herpes each year, and the largest increase is occurring in young teens.

One of those 500,000 people....is me.

I was diagnosed with herpes in January of 2005. The day I was told I was in the doctor's office alone. There was no one there with me while I waited for the test results to come back either positive or negative. The doctor was explaining to me about herpes and what it was, how I got, and what it was going to do to me, but as she was telling me this, while I held back the tears, there was only one thing I was hearing echoing in my head, the disease I now had, I was going to have for the rest of my life. As of today, there is no cure for herpes.

Most of the symptoms that I had were those related to those of the common cold, but worse. Some of the symptoms that I remember the most that hurt were the fevers, headaches, swollen glands and a sore throat. My throat was so sore that when it came to swallowing - I refused. It felt like knives where in my throat and each time I swallowed they dug deeper. No matter how much medication I took, the pain never ceased. When it came to eating, solids were out of the picture. Each solid food I ate seemed to push the knives deeper so I was stuck to a liquid diet causing me to lose a lot of weight and energy. With the sore throat, I was unable to swallow and hydrate my throat, so when I went to sleeping I couldn't for the pain was so intense that I didn't sleep well and the other fact that I had to get up every hour to hydrate my throat and try to reduce the pain. Losing sleep and strength, it was mostly bed rest unless I was in class.

After about two weeks of knowing that I had herpes, my current and

only boyfriend thought he should get tested to see if he had the disease too.

Herpes has two simple types. Herpes one and Herpes two. Herpes one is the most common in Americans because it is in the form of a cold sore around your mouth. If a person with Herpes one has oral sex with his/her partner, they have the risk of giving their partner Herpes two, in the genital area. Herpes one is less painful than Herpes two because of its location, and Herpes two is something you have for life and are never able to cure, while Herpes one might not occur as much and you are able to decrease the pain with medication for the area around the infection. Herpes one isn't as severe as herpes two, so when tested for the STD, Herpes one will not show due to its location, appearing negative, where Herpes two is more serious and will show positive because of where its located. My boyfriend's test came back negative and my came back positive.

When the test came back negative, my heart was torn into so many pieces I was afraid it would never beat the same rhythm it did before. A thought I had in my head now was, "how am I suppose to live a normal life again?" Knowing this, I thought that nothing could go worse. The only boyfriend I had been intimate with and I end up being the one who gets diagnosed with a life disease.

My symptoms became worse and with each visit to the doctor's they had the tone of a broken record saying that they were positive I had herpes. My symptoms didn't lighten up even when I told my family. At first my family cried out at me with, "How could you be so irresponsible?" "Don't you know that you have it for life," and so on. These were phrases I had already banged around in my head. At times at the doctors, while

they talked to me, I felt like they too were scolding me with kind words to hide the plain stupidity of my actions, "Why didn't you get checked for STDs after meeting him?" "Did you use protection?" "Why didn't you come to us sooner?"

Questions! That was I all I ever heard. If they wanted to scream at me, I wanted it to be answers. I wanted solutions not scolding. If anything, I wanted to run away from their screams and hope that the disease didn't follow.

The doctor told me that the symptoms I had that first came with the herpes would be back after a few months, and keep coming back, but not as bad. I nodded my head showing her I understood, but didn't like that new news. Remembering the symptoms, I prepared myself for the worse. They also told me that the biggest thing that brought back the symptoms was stress and the lack of taking care of myself. I sighed, as far as I knew I was the most stressful person about the littlest things. If stress brought the symptoms back, I was screwed.

Almost a year went by without my symptoms coming back. Without them reoccurring, a slight hope came from my broken heart that maybe the tests had lied. Maybe the doctors read the tests wrong and I didn't have herpes but just a bad case of the flu. I thought maybe that everything was just a bad dream, until I went back to the doctor's office and told them my thoughts and my hope. The doctor looks at me with a blank stare, almost if to laugh at my hope, and said, "No, you have it. You're just one of the lucky ones whose symptoms don't come as often as others."

Lucky! How the hell was a lucky one? I would scream this to no one as I walked back to my dorm room. I damn well didn't feel lucky. Luck for

me would be the disease vanishing from my body and never existing inside of me, but luck that my symptoms hadn't come back, was no luck to me.

So, even if my symptoms for herpes rarely show and I am a "lucky one" now until the day I die, I have herpes, whether I like it or not. I try to tell myself I don't, but lying never helps. This I have found out for when the symptoms did occur my lies became the truth. So now I go each day trying to do everything I use to do. I'm still with my boyfriend. To this day, he still feels horrible about giving me this life time disease. Each day he reminds me that he still loves me and is sorry he gave me herpes. There are times when something will remind me I have herpes, but that's all it is, a reminder. But there is no cure, no answers.

What I have learned from this disease is to always be careful, no matter how safe you think you are with your partner. Young adults are constantly reminded of what STDs are out there and how easily they can be passed and how some are a life term disease where others, like AIDS, will slowly kill you. All STDs can be transmitted to any young adult who becomes intimate with his or her partner, which is why protection and being 101% safe when being intimate is always a must. I thought I was when I became intimate. My mother's warnings of what I might catch stayed with me, but I considered myself a safe person. Unfortunately I was not safe enough. When it comes to being intimate, never think you can't catch an STD, I thought I was being safe, but in the end my over confidence resulted in a disease I can never cure.

Now I go through every day still knowing I have herpes, but I am still me, and nothing is going to change me, not even a STD disease called herpes.

Called Up: An LSC Graduate's Story of Combat In Iraq

By Dillion Eliassen

When Isaac "Ike" Marsh is in his car and stopped at a traffic light, he'll check to see if anyone is around, and if no one is, he'll ignore the red light and zoom through the intersection. It isn't a rebellious disregard for the rules of the road that makes Marsh drive like this, but an anxiety of being in a car and not moving. It's a habit he picked up from protecting himself and his squad from Iraqi insurgents' attacks. Marsh was a gunner in a Humvee, and was used to driving fast through the streets of Baghdad and the highways around the Iraqi capital. "We would always try to be moving fast to be less of a target," Marsh remembers. "We didn't want to be stuck in traffic, because then we're sitting ducks."

Marsh is in the National Guard, stationed in Waterbury as part of the 1st Battalion-86th Field Artillery, also known

tions checks, Marsh trains as a fire direction specialist for a Howitzer artillery gun. Being in the Guard isn't just training; in times of war, National Guard groups can be called up to join regular army units in combat. In December of 2003 the 1st of the 86th got called up.

"I got a phone call and was told to not go anywhere, don't leave the state, that we were 'on alert.'" Marsh didn't think too much of the call since he had gotten it before, but this time it was for real. In January the 1st of the 86th shipped out, flying out of Burlington bound for Fort Dix in New Jersey. Marsh and his fellow Guardsmen spent two months in Fort Dix training. They did combat survival training, drills for helping wounded soldiers, military police training, and weapons qualifications. In March, 2004, the 1st of the 86th flew to the Middle East to join the 95th Bat-

armed with a 9mm pistol, and a shotgun.

Marsh's squad's first mission was to escort a convoy of supplies from his base to the base in downtown Baghdad. They arrived safely at the base and were heading back to BIAP when they got a call over their radio to provide security for a medical team that was responding to a call close to where Marsh's squad was. A civilian contractor had been injured by a roadside bomb while driving down the highway in his truck. Marsh's squad was on the same highway, and they responded to the call from BIAP. When they reached the contractor, they found him to be in bad shape. "He had his left arm blown off," he said. "But he survived as far as I know." Marsh and his squad helped the man as best they could, and secured the area while a medical team flew in to evacuate the contractor.

It was during his missions of escorting convoys in and around Baghdad when Marsh learned the benefits of constantly moving fast. BIAP is about five miles east of Baghdad, where there is an Allied Forces base downtown, called the Green Zone, and the highway connecting BIAP to the Iraqi capital is a dangerous road to travel. Since American civilians and the military use it so heavily, it makes a great road for Iraqi insurgents to pick targets on. Marsh had to stay alert, never sure where a rocket could be fired, or a grenade thrown from. "We were always doing sweeps of the road, scanning for threats. You have to keep your eyes open all the time, and check everywhere, rooftops and overpasses. There's a lot of overpasses in Baghdad," Marsh said.

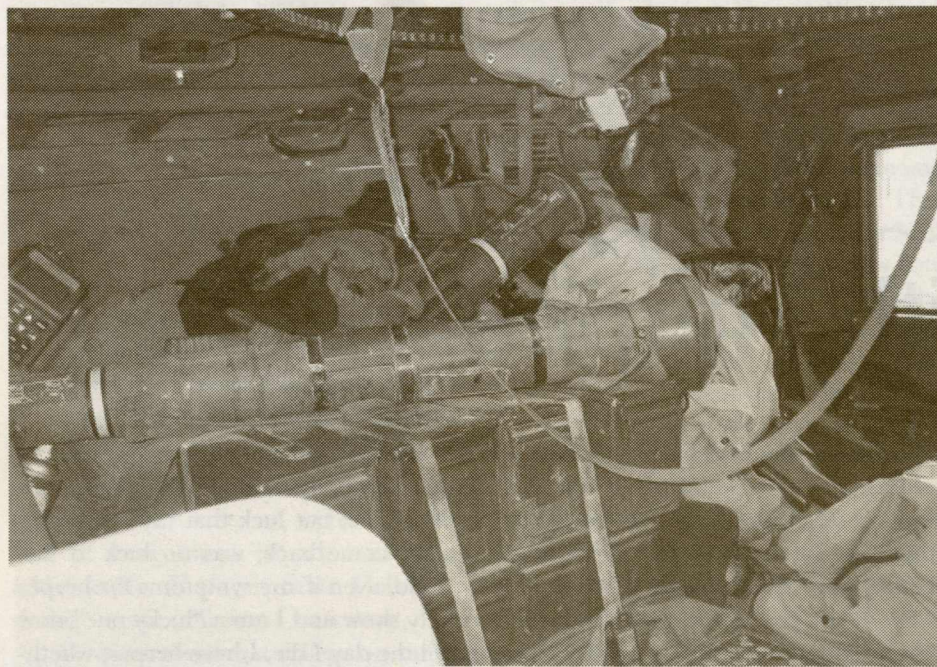
After a month of escorting convoys,

Marsh was reassigned to escort and support military intelligence units on information-gathering missions in the streets of Baghdad. Marsh would help check leads and "go into the streets with an interpreter, and talk with people, find out if there's anything planned." Some of these intelligence missions included rounding up suspects for interrogation. When they had custody of someone who was to be interrogated, Marsh's squad would travel to FOB Kalsu, a base about 50 miles south of Baghdad where interrogation sessions were held. Sometimes Marsh was in the room during these sessions, to protect the interrogator and/or interpreter.

Just after an interrogation on May 25th, four days after Marsh's 24th birthday, Kalsu was hit by a mortar attack. Marsh and a member of his team were just getting outside when the attack began. Marsh and the other squad member jumped into a bunker they were walking right next to. At one point during the attack, Marsh and his buddy helped a soldier, who had pulled his ankle running across the base, get inside the bunker. About 20 mortars fell in five minutes. "It was so loud," Marsh remembers. "You could hear the shrapnel zinging off sandbags and bunker roofs."

After the attack was over, Marsh ran to where his squad was to see if they were ok. When the attack started, most of the squad had ducked into the bunker they were next to. Unfortunately, the bunker had a hole in the corner that allowed shrapnel to fly through. From Marsh's squad, two

Continued on page 13



Ammo

Photograph by Isaac Marsh

as the "1st of the 86th." He is an E4, otherwise known as a specialist, which is one rank below a sergeant. Marsh has been in for nine years and going to Iraq is his only deployment. Marsh joined so he could pay for college. "It was either the Guard, or not go to college," he said. "My buddy's step dad was a recruiter, and we joined at the same time."

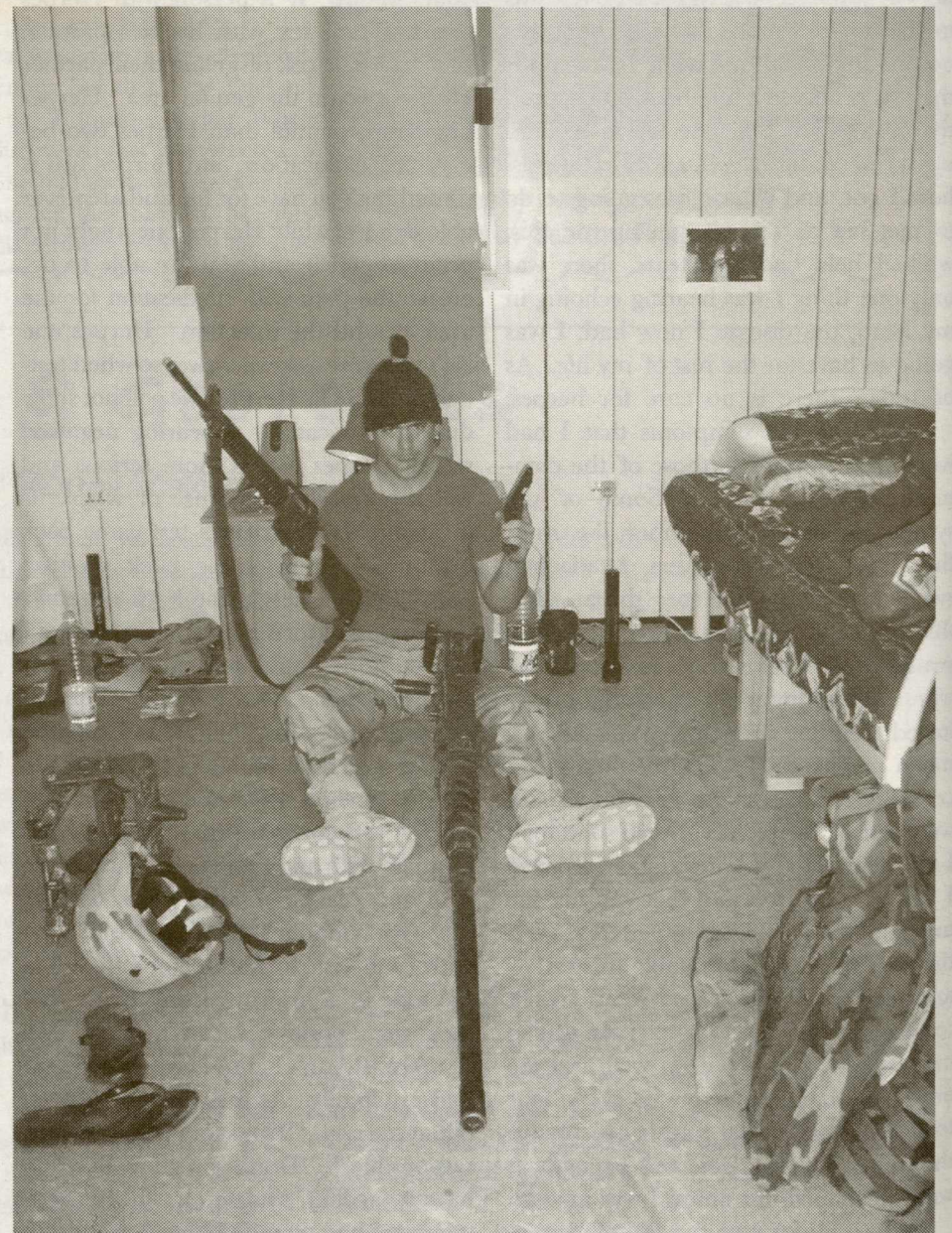
Marsh graduated from Hazen Union High School in 1998 and started at Lyndon State College the fall of that year. A week after he graduated from high school, Marsh left for basic training. He was at boot camp for the entire summer, returning home at 11pm the night before he moved into the dorms at LSC. He played soccer at LSC, and graduated in 2002 with a double major in Small Business Management and Business Administration, with a minor in Marketing. After he graduated from college, Marsh spent some time at home in Greensboro, caring for his father who was suffering from Emphysema.

As a soldier in the National Guard, Marsh trains with his battalion one weekend a month, and at an annual training period two weeks long, known as "summer camp." Along with physical fitness drills and weapons qualifica-

tion of the 6th Military Police Brigade.

"When I heard about us going, I was scared to death," Marsh said, remembering when his unit was called up. "I would've preferred not going, but I signed up. It was my duty to go, and I feel I did something for my country."

The 1st of the 86th flew into Kuwait, and then moved to the US Army base at Baghdad International Airport, called BIAP by those who are stationed there. The first assignment of the 1st of the 86th was to provide escort for supply convoys leaving BIAP. Marsh's battalion was broken up into squads of 10 to 12 soldiers, and squads were broken up into teams of three to four. Each team was assigned a Humvee, a heavily armed truck the army uses for escort missions. Marsh was the gunner of his Humvee, manning a 50-caliber machine gun mounted on the top of the all-terrain vehicle. Marsh's job of a gunner was two-fold: he operated the Humvee's big gun, and was responsible for directing where the vehicle went. "Its like tunnel-vision inside the Humvee," Marsh describes the visibility from inside the truck. "The gunner is pretty much the eyes and ears of the Humvee." Aside from the 50-caliber gun, Marsh was



Ike Marsh posing with his guns in Iraq
Photograph by Isaac Marsh

LSC community bids farewell to class of 2006

By Mary Wheeler

Students, families, faculty, staff, and community members gathered together in the Alexander Twilight Theater on Thursday, May 4 for the annual robing ceremony, to congratulate the graduating senior class on their various accomplishments. Before the ceremony began, caps and robs were distributed. Black robs were given to those with Bachelors Degrees and green for those with Associate Degrees.

Dr. Donna Dalton, Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, gave the ceremonial introduction, asking the audience to give a round of applause to the graduates. Dalton then introduced the platform party which included speakers: Garrett Cota, Class of 2006, Mark Hilton, Assistant Professor of Business Administration, Dr. Carol Moore, LSC President, and Joseph Barrett, Class of 2006.

During her speech, Moore congratulated the graduates on their successes, stating that they've

waited a long time for this moment. She spoke to the group about how they'll soon be leaving the sheltered and familiar community they've all come to know, and enter the real world. Moore said that the robs symbolize being one step closer to graduation, their goals, and represents each of the graduates intellectual achievements. "I want you all to reflect on your years here at Lyndon and think about what you've accomplished. Now fast forward to five years from now and ask yourself where will I be and who is the person I want to become." On her parting note, Moore then welcomed all the seniors into the Lyndon community.

Hilton, a graduate of LSC, told the group what a privilege it was for him to speak. "22 years ago I was in those seats. I was in your shoes wondering what is next and if I will be a success. I'm absolutely sure you will be successful in what ever endeavors you chose." Hilton stated that while the world is a competitive place,

he felt confident that this year's class was ready to take on the challenge. He gave the class some parting words of advice, to never take a back-seat to anyone and always give 110%. Hilton ended saying how few people have done what this class has accomplished, and that they should all be very proud of themselves.

Barrett, a television studies graduate, showed a video presentation on the origins and significance of the robes, and how the different colors came for each major. He spoke from his own personal experiences of having a fear of public speaking, but faced his fears by becoming a news anchor. "Never give up on your dreams, because it's those dreams that make up great."

The presentations of the awards began followed by a reception in the theater lobby held immediately preceded the ceremony. Graduation will be held on Sunday May 14.



Reception in the Alexander Twilight Theater lobby after the robing ceremony.

Photograph by Tabitha Fitzgerald

Dean of the Mailroom

By Sarah Donaghy

You've probably met him. No doubt you've shared a joke or a few moments when picking up a package or sending out your monthly bills. He may be your boss, your coworker, or your partner for an afternoon walk. How often, though, do you take the time to acknowledge the impact this unassuming man has made on your life here at LSC?

I'm talking, of course, about Harry Swett. Tucked into a cluttered corner of the mailroom between a desk and a computer he jokingly refers to as his "office", he's always willing to offer a smile or a bit of comfort to those who make the trek to the bowels of the Vail basement. This is where he spends his days ensuring that all the employees and inhabitants of LSC receive their much needed parcels from the outside world in a tidy and timely fashion.

He rarely receives the attention he is merited, this three time father, two time grandfather. Who among the many faces that have received help, hope, or even just a much needed laugh could tell what he did before they came to LSC, let alone before he came here? Who could name his wife? Who knows what joys and struggles he has come through always with a smile on his face and a prayer in his heart?

Harry Swett was born the third of four children in the nearby town of Danville. A town that was already well acquainted with his family being the birth place of his father and his father's father before him. In 1963, not long after he graduated from Danville High School, he joined the military and went overseas to Vietnam. There is both pride and sadness in his eyes when he recalls his time flying in helicopters with the First Air Cavalry where he worked in supply.

"Anything that flew I'd go up in," he said as I spoke to him in his cozy home, still in the town of Danville. As was usually Harry's way, he sat to the side offering me the most comfortable chair. Although his military experience left him, as it did many veterans, feeling both proud and jilted, the pride

was in the forefront as he recalled the cavalry and the 11th Aviation Test Group he was part of in Georgia.

He was even more proud to discuss his family pointing out the adorably chubby cheeked grandchildren whose pictures hang on his walls. The year he returned Stateside, while working at General Electric in Burlington, he met the woman who was destined to become his wife. "I

was going with her roommate at the time," he said with a sly but well humored smile. Not wanting to get too "serious" with the roommate he asked out Claudette Leclair, never realizing how many happy years would follow.

He asked for her hand in marriage at the Old North Church in North Danville in a field where they had often "parked" during their courtship. Later, when their children

rate auditor to seasonal employment at the post office before driving truck, first for Holmes Transportation for twelve years, then for Yellow Freight for five years.

In 1991, he joined the LSC staff, but not in the mailroom. One of the custodians was out with a bad back and he came to work in his place from May to October. When Ray Skinner, the Dean of the Mailroom at the time retired, Harry was able to apply for the position. Through help from the work study students, and much trial and error, he developed the system LSC now uses for mail delivery and shipping.

Through his time here at the college, Harry has seen many grow from youth to adulthood. He's been a rock for anyone who needed support. Any lonely student, away from home and in need of a friendly face, need only show up at his door. For some he has become not only a friend and confidant, but a kind of second father away from home.

Sadly though, eight years ago, while a sophomore at LSC, Joseph Frank Swett, Harry's twenty year old son, was killed in a snowmobile accident. To get through Harry turned to his spirituality, his family, and the same friends who had relied on him in difficult times. Many staff members reached out with sympathy and were surprised by how honestly Harry thanked them for their kindness and friendship in the midst of his grief.

A picture of Joseph, poised on a rock with a black guitar on his lap, sits on Harry's desk as well as on a wall at home and in the hallway of Danville High School. Every year Harry and Claudette gather together some money to give as a scholarship to a Danville High graduate in Joseph's name.

This year Harry was given a token of gratitude from the LSC students when he was asked to speak at the Rising Star Awards in March. This touched him more deeply than the students could have known.

"I'm the lucky one," he said when told how lucky the students are to have him. "I get to watch as the kids grow through the years from teens to adults and begin their lives."

We are the lucky ones though. Think back to the cards he sent when you were sick, the advice he gave when you were troubled, or even just the smile he warmed you with on a cold day, and then, this May as he celebrates 15 years of work at LSC, stop by and thank him. Tell him he is more than just a faculty member, more than just the Mailroom Dean, he is, and forever will be, our Harry.



Harry Swett in the mail room.
Photograph by Tabitha Fitzgerald

passed this spot, they would refer to it as "Proposal Point."

In 1969, the same year Claudette Leclair became Claudette Swett, they were blessed with their first daughter, Rebecca Ann. Joanne Marie followed two years later and their only son, Joseph Frank, was born in 1978. During this time Harry worked many jobs to support his family. He worked every job from

Decorated Lyndon State Student

By Nicholas R. Plante

On the job hazards in the civilian world can be dangerous, but for one service member it meant near death. After numerous close calls dating back to the 1980s, LSC student and decorated sergeant, John Gamblin, lives to talk about his challenges and accomplishments.

Gamblin began his career in the Army where he was awarded numerous medals including the bronze star. His difficulties began early in his career. While attending jump school Gamblin suffered a knee injury ending his hopes of becoming a paratrooper.

Later in his career while serving in Operation Desert Storm as a forward observer a ricocheted bullet caught Gamblin in the gut. "I felt this pinching in my gut." He said the bullet missed all of his vital organs but damaged his spine.

The dedicated soldier carried on his career and while in Korea, Gamblin stepped on a personnel land mine that shot shrapnel into him. "I don't remember any of it," Gamblin said. He said no one thought there would be a mine there.

After a brief break in service Gamblin enlisted in the full time Air Force Reserve. While onboard a C-17 Globemaster III military cargo aircraft as a maintenance observer, Gamblin experienced one of the most significant events in his life as well as the lives of the crew onboard.

Gamblin said the aircraft experienced ground fire while performing air drop operations over Bosnia. "The ramp of the plane was open and we were taking fire. I looked over at the loadmaster and motioned if he wanted me to close the ramp," Gamblin said. He said he wasn't trained on how to close the ramp, but he read the

instructions and closed the ramp possibly saving the aircraft and the lives of the crew onboard. "As I was closing the ramp I felt a burn against my head." Later he learned it was a bullet that grazed his head. "When I was walking back to my seat I fell hitting my head." He said the next thing he knew he was in a military hospital in Germany. "I woke up inside a military hospital in Germany with a big headache."

Due to the injuries he incurred over his years of service Gamblin was medically discharged and now receives full disability compensation from the Veteran's Association.

Thirteen years after his actions onboard the C-17 Gamblin was awarded the Purple Heart.

Gamblin said he also received notification that he will be awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. According to USAF headquarters in Randolph, TX, "The Distinguished Flying Cross is awarded to any officer or enlisted man of the Armed Forces of the United States who shall have distinguished himself in actual combat in support of operations by 'heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight, subsequent to November 11, 1918.'"

The first person awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross was Captain Charles A. Lindbergh for his solo flight of 3600 miles across the Atlantic in 1927.

Gamblin attends LSC majoring in Meteorology and Business and hopes to start a business some day. He says he fell in love with Vermont and LSC. "I came here on a fishing trip, toured LSC and fell in love with it."

The Ins and Outs of Riding the Bus

By Brendan Foley

Like many of you, I grew up in a small town in New England. I went to a public school and learned what every other kid learns, but where I learned real life experience was on public transportation. The bus taught me many things that have helped me in life and I wanted to share some tips with you. These ideas are applicable anywhere where advice is needed.

Being poor and lazy, I never really had a reliable car growing up. Even now at 24, I still have a crappy car. I can not lock this one because the original owner lost the keys. I am afraid to bring it anywhere in case somebody breaks in and rips me off. Sure, it gets me around my small sleepy town but the three hour trip to Boston or Montreal, no way. God forbid if I wanted to go to New York or cross the country. It would have exploded in the middle of the night in some sketchy Southern belt bible town where the locals would have beaten me up, stolen my stuff and left me for the State Police to come and hassle my New Hampshire ass. So I did what I had to and just bought bus tickets everywhere.

I remember my first trip down to Boston. I got on real early in the morning and found a seat away from everyone else. It was sunny out and I had two seats to myself to relax and enjoy the scenic drive. I was on a deserted island bus ride. About an hour later I awoke to the screaming of two bastard children behind my seat and some Chester the molester type sitting next to me. That is when I started to learn a few things.

A) It's no use pretending to be asleep, people that want to talk, will talk regardless of if you are listening. Even if you have some broken headphones on to try and trick them, they will continue with

their insane chatter. It could be some nice grandmother that wants to tell you about her grandchildren who she is on her way to visit. It could be the totally insane meth head that can't wait to get off the bus and wants to tell you all about it. Maybe, it's my face, but people are always opening up and telling me their life story when I think it's pretty clear I'm not interested and I'm too nice a guy to tell them off. Sometimes I wish I could be the crazy guy on the bus for once and annoy the living shit out of a quite guy.

B) Tie everything to you and make sure your wallet is in your front pocket. I have watched people steal stuff right under people's noses when leaving the bus. Always watch out the window when your stuff is in the outside compartment on the bus. I once had to chase a guy who started to walk away with my bag.

C) Share everything you have. If someone looks hungry, and you can afford it, split what you have. Believe me, this is important for the seasoned bus rider. I have been on both sides of the coin here and sometimes the scariest looking person on the bus is also the nicest. This one time an old woman gave me a soda because she said I looked like I needed one. She was right. Another time I traded a guy a peanut butter sandwich and a bag of chips for three dollars and a bunch of smokes.

D) Talk to the people that sell tickets. Greyhound has a lot of deals in the holiday season and sometimes you can get rerouted for free to better accommodate your trip. Most people that work for a huge corporation could care less if that said corporation doesn't make that extra dollar. I have made a one way trip to New York last two days with stops in Boston and Worcester.

This is a gamble of course but sometimes it pays off especially when it's busy. Also, if you are a complainer, do what you do best. People will most likely give you what you want just to get you out of there.

E) According to the Greyhound website, Radios, laptops and other electronic items may be carried onboard, provided that they do not disturb fellow passengers and that headphones are used. Whatever you do, don't be a show off and then fall asleep with it in your bag or something. It might not be there when you wake up. Remember that most people riding the bus are poor too.

F) Don't smoke in the bathroom or get drunk on the bus. The first never works because people that don't smoke hate smokers and will rat you out. The driver will kick you off the bus and it's always a long walk. Second, being drunk on the bus is the worst feeling besides wanting to puke on the bus, so they kind of go hand in hand. I do recommend pills if you have a long way to go because they just knock you out.

G) If you have a disabled friend, as in someone with a broken leg or anything bring them along because you ride free as their helper assistance person. This sounds bad, but what the hell; it's a free ticket and a nice bus ride with your friend.

H) Don't tell other passengers too much about your self. This one girl I met on the bus coming back from Chicago turned out to be a total psycho. She called information and found my number because I stupidly told her what town I lived in and started calling me all the time. Remember, you do not know these people. Just because you are sitting next to them for eight hours doesn't mean anything in the long run. A friend of mine actually had this guy show up at

her town looking for her because he fell in love with her on the long bus ride from Montana to Boston. She flipped and got a restraining order. He finally got on another bus to find another girl to obsess over.

I) According to their website, a normal Greyhound bus holds 28 adults comfortably well. I have no idea what that means but sharing a moving vehicle with 25 other people is not my idea of comfortable, more like a private hell, so try and be positive when getting on the bus. Only you can make the trip better. Also, some times of the year are obviously busier, so be careful when you choose to travel. Remember that most people are miserable around the holidays and the bus just makes them feel worse so try and travel when it's not so busy.

J) If you are every going from Boston to New York or Philly, take the China Town bus. It's real cheap and you'll be the tallest person on the bus which is good every once in a while. Better watch out for those chickens flying around though. Once in China Town, find dim sum and fire works.

Like most things, it's all in your hands, so do what you can to make it better. I like to watch people interacting in the most common everyday way. I always make up background stories for my fellow bus companions. That is a great way to pass the time. Also, remember the bus is inexpensive, that is why you are riding it. If I was rich I would buy a teleportation machine.. But I'm not, so I save all that money for cheap food and beer when I arrive at my destination. Follow these rules and the transportation part of your travel experience should be satisfactory and remember, always thank your driver for getting you there in one piece.

World Traveling Ernie Broadwater

By Jess Rexford

Ernie Broadwater is a Professor of Education here at Lyndon State College. Professor Broadwater has been a professor here at the college for 30 years. In those 30 years, he has taught Math Methods, Educational Psychology, and has supervised field experience students and student teachers. Prior to coming to LSC, Ernie taught in West Virginia and Ohio. During his time as a teacher, Ernie has also had the privilege to travel abroad to enhance and bring some fresh ideas to his teaching.

Ernie's first foreign travel was in as part of the Peace Corps. He volunteered in Sokoto, Nigeria. Being part of the Peace Corps sparked his interest to travel to other countries to observe their cultures.

Ernie lived one year in England as a Fulbright faculty exchange teacher. While he was in England, he was introduced to a different culture and driving on the left hand side of the road. The way the English teach in their classrooms is also a fresh idea to us Americans.

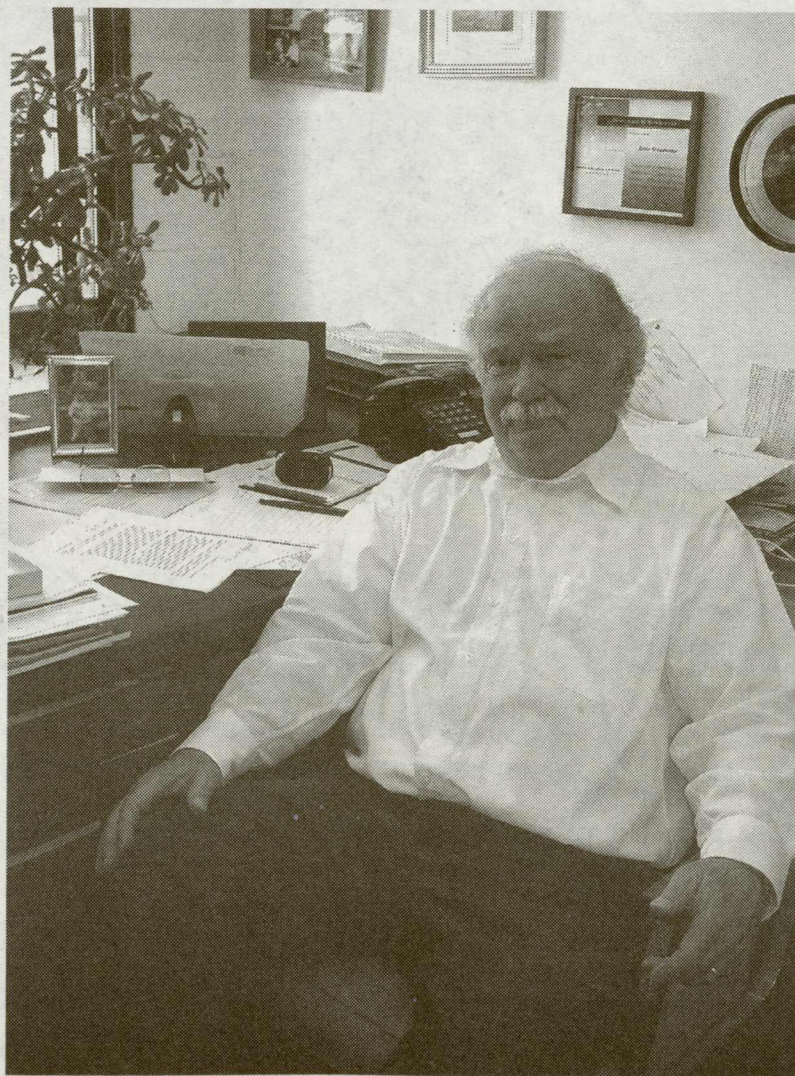
Here in America, we teach primarily whole class instruction on one subject at a time not as much integration of subjects or ages together. While in England, Ernie was exposed to project based learning and integrated content areas. He noticed that the older children were not only spending time in the younger children's classrooms but that they would even go on fieldtrips together to enhance the relationships and learning. Teachers use the whole classroom including ceilings and around corners, not just the walls to display children's work. This would make it more lively and exciting for all to observe.

One quote that Ernie gave me from an English newspaper was, "Fog in channel Europe isolated". He cautioned that we in the United States must work to prevent oceans from isolating us from the rest of the world. If we do not explore these other cultures and ideas we will become isolated and not expand in our learning opportunities.

About 10 years after Ernie went to England, while on Sabbatical, he was a visiting professor at Kobe University of Commerce. He lived for one year in Kobe, Japan with his family observing their culture and schools. For many years the Japanese have been excelling in mathematics. Ernie was interested in seeing how they teach and take back some ideas to his students here.

In Japan the children go to school six days a week for 240 days a year. At this rate the children in Japan go to school four years for every three of our calendar years. After the children go to school they may go to an after school program called Juku. Juku is where extra academic skills such as math and reading are reinforced. Ernie also noted that the curriculum in Japan is the same throughout the country no matter what school you teach in. Here in America each town may have a separate curriculum they will follow. This would make it harder for children if they are to move during their school years to catch up. All of these factors can lead to their excelling in academics.

In talking to Ernie I was intrigued by the different approaches these two countries have in contrast to our own here in America. In looking at these different countries we as educators can receive valuable information and share some of our own ideas with one another.



Ernie Broadwater in his office at LSC. Photograph by Tabitha Fitzgerald.

Women and Tattoos

By Sara Morehouse

Tattooing is a relatively old custom, dating back to prehistoric times. They can be marks of adulthood, gang membership, crimes, or they can mean something to the owner of the tattoo, such as their family crest. However, different standards are held for men and women in America. Men have a much easier time than women do if they have tattoos because it is an accepted practice for them. For women, this practice is not accepted by a large majority of the population. Women have a harder time with tattoos because of the fact that tattoos are still viewed as a largely male practice. Even if a woman gets a tattoo that can be viewed as “girly”, such as a flower, butterfly, or fairy, that woman is still viewed as moving away from the standards for feminine beauty. More masculine tattoos, such as swords, dragons, or tribal symbols are viewed as awkward or tasteless for a woman to have, especially if these tattoos are visible. Women in the business world are discriminated against if they have a tattoo that may be visible while they are at work. If they go in for interviews, they may not get the job if their interviewer can see the tattoo, where-

as a man would not have that problem. Tattoos on business women are usually viewed as tacky and unprofessional, while on men, they are viewed as the norm. Also, the spot a woman decides to get a tattoo in matters. For a male who wants a tattoo, the spot does not really matter. For a woman, a tattoo in the small of her back would be called a “tramp stamp”. Many women take offense to this because they do not view themselves as tramps despite the placement of their tattoo. The stereotype for women with tattoos on any part of their body is that they are very free with their bodies. These assumptions that are made about women who have tattoos are wrong. Just because a woman has a tattoo does not mean she is free with her body. Tattoos should not be viewed as a male tradition because more and more women are using their body as a canvas. Tattoos are merely a form of self-expression, which is why tattooed women felt the need to get them. Women have been striving for equal rights and, in many ways, they have succeeded. However, there is still much work to be done, especially since women are not viewed as equals over an issue such as tattoos.



Gemini
Photograph by Jade Chaloux



Camouflage Lizard
Photograph by Jade Chaloux



N in Wingdings
Photograph by Jade Chaloux



To Be Different
Photograph by Jade Chaloux



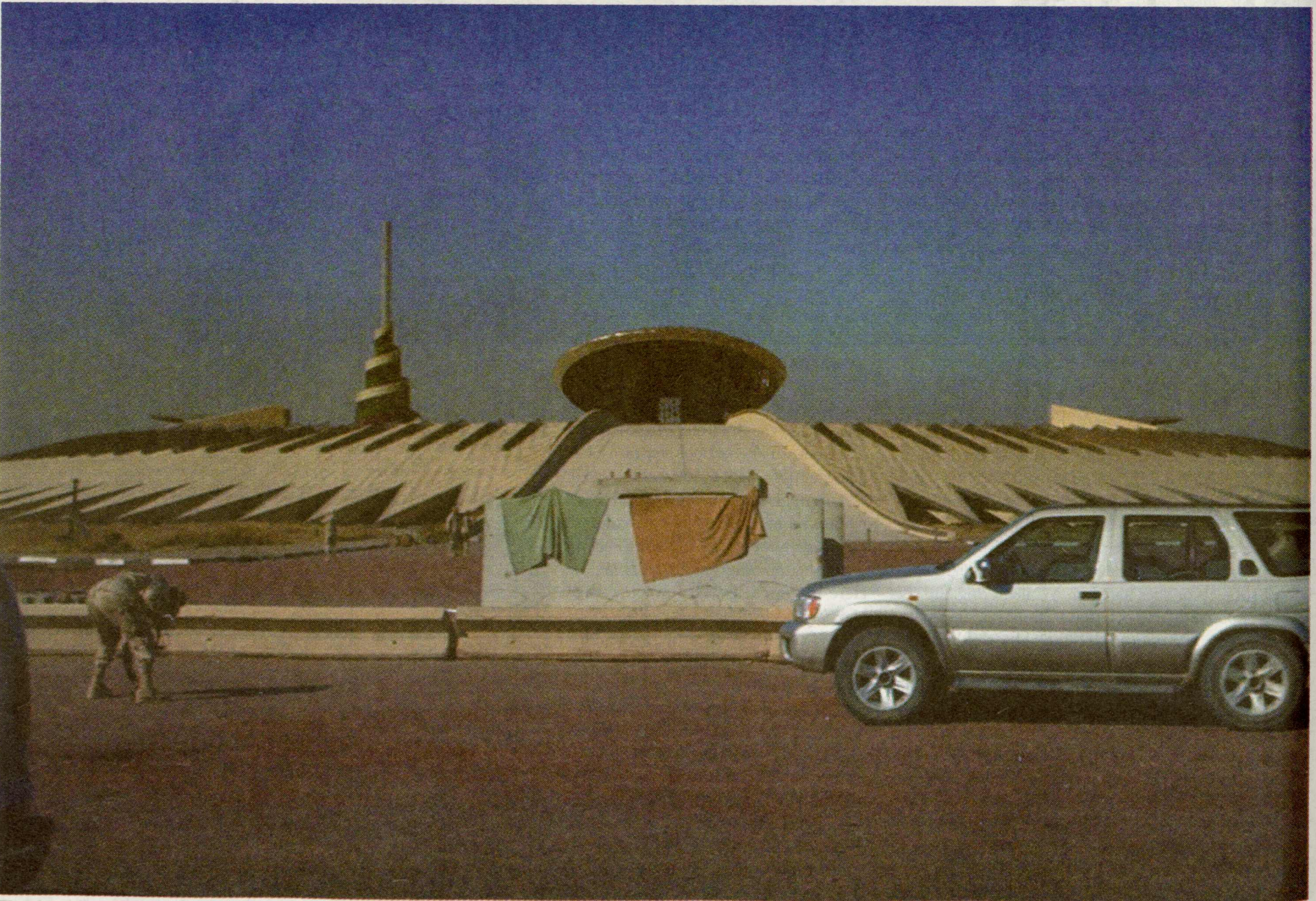
Sunflower
Photograph by Jade Chaloux



Left
Butterfly
Photograph By Jade Chaloux



Right
Swirly Star
Photograph by Jade Chaloux



Tomb of Fallin Soldier.
Photograph by Isaac Marsh

Lunch Review

Thermopylae

By Ken Vos

It felt like Friday, but Friday can mean quite different things to different people. In the doorway of his inner office at the end of Whittier Hall, Ernest Elliot, fiftyish and balding, was talking to Melissa Daniels. Among themselves the students referred to Ernest as “Pudge.” Melissa was two people: secretary to the principal and no-nonsense mother to the students who had business with the principal.

“Deer hunting season starts tomorrow,” he reminded her as he removed his glasses and held them to the light. “You know what that means. Half of the kids will be ‘sick’ for most of the week. If we had any sense we would call off school altogether and make it one of our official vacations.”

She nodded agreement. “You can’t buck some traditions. For everything there is a season. I know it’s a cliché, but for some of these boys, it’s a right of passage into manhood.” “Could be,” answered the principal, “and that is more than can be said for a lot of things that go on in this place. It’s tough for a boy to become a man these days.”

The lunch bell rang. Doors were flung open and the hallways flooded with students heading for the cafeteria. They shouldered their backpacks like a company of sherpas. Theirs was no descent from Everest, but rather a reprieve from the demands and diminished oxygen of various classrooms in Pennfield High. Depending on what trail they followed, the dominant smell of macaroni and cheese blended with pine oil wafted from swaying doors of rest rooms, floor wax, something acrid from the chemistry lab, Xerox toner on hot paper, perspiration, cologne, and an occasional whiff of the milking parlor from a farm boy who hadn’t gotten up early enough to shower after morning chores.

On the second floor, next to a row of lockers, Jeremy Goodrich shifted from one leg to the other as he chatted with Margaret O’Keefe and her friend Katlyn.

“Bet you’re going deer hunting tomorrow,” said Margaret. Although she raised one eyebrow, it seemed to Jeremy a genuine question rather than an accusation. When it comes to hunting you don’t know what to expect from girls these days.

“Wouldn’t miss it.” He studied her green eyes and the chestnut hair that was pulled back

from her forehead by a restraining band before it tumbled down to her shoulders. Her mouth puckered forward just a bit, and the slight space between her upper front teeth was to Jeremy not a blemish, but a natural expression of her beauty.

“If you catch one, will you bring me some venison steak?”

Jeremy looked up, surprised. “I can’t bring a package of bloody meat to school, even if it’s frozen.”

“I know, silly. Bring it to my house.”

Was that an invitation or what! He could imagine himself striding up the walk and pressing the button by the door of the breezeway that separated the garage from her house. Inside the brown paper bag in his hand is a package of frozen venison tied with a red ribbon, and tucked beneath the ribbon are his mother’s three favorite recipes: venison bourguignon, venison stroganoff, and marinated venison kabobs. Margaret opens the door, accepts the gift, flings her arms around him and gives him a kiss on the cheek.

Margaret lifted both arms to put something high in her locker. Her long sleeved top, green like her eyes, rose to reveal a crescent of bare skin beneath her navel and above her low rise jeans of faded khaki with criss-cross webbing that served as a belt. Jeremy felt his eyes being pulled downward the way the tattoo on a few of the bolder girls drew your eyes to and under a lower garment. Margaret tilted her head toward him just in time to see his gaze, and he saw that she saw. Blushing, he sloughed off his backpack and knelt as he turned away to open it.

“Got to find my chemistry book to look up something before class. See ya.”

He walked away, holding the chemistry text low and tight in front of him. The irony of the word, “chemistry,” did not escape him.

“Kind of cute,” observed Katlyn. “Nice butt, too. Too bad he’s so shy.”

“I guess, but Mom says the quiet ones are often the prize in the long run. He’s smart, you know.”

Jeremy walked down the corridor toward the stairs leading to the cafeteria. Why do girls always say “catch?” You picture a dandy with a butterfly net, or some jerk trying to snag a freakin’ greased pig at the fair. Nobody “catches” a deer. You shoot it, or kill it, or at least “get” it. He turned for a last look at Margaret. Duane Witherspoon, quarterback for the Pennfield Raiders, was approaching the two young women. In last Saturday’s game,

Duane had broken through the line and carried the ball fifty yards for the winning touchdown.

Jeremy looked away, turned toward the stairs, and ran down two steps at a time. In the cafeteria, Witherspoon brought his tray and sat next to Jeremy. “How are things down on the farm, Jer?” Condescension was in his voice - an unspeakable “hi, hick.”

“Fine. What is that on the inside of your arm? Been to the tattoo parlor?”

“No, just a little preparation for the chemistry quiz.” Duane moved as if to rise, and punched Jeremy in the upper arm with a force that went beyond affection. Quick as a cat, Jeremy returned the blow with knuckles sharp. Witherspoon’s mouth tightened with surprise and challenge. He rose and walked away, one hand carrying the tray, the other held to his shoulder.

After lunch, on the way to chemistry, Jeremy saw a recruiter entering the office of the guidance counselor. The man looked very erect; all spit and polish in his Marine uniform. That was something to think about. Several of his teachers had encouraged him to investigate college, but he was aware of his parents’ limited ability to pay for it. A hitch in one of the services might toughen him up and clarify his goals as well as enable him to save for college. That national guard ad on television had also caught his attention. It showed two men and a woman with stony faces looking resolutely ahead. Beneath was the caption, “WE NEVER SURRENDER.” There might be times when it would seem prudent to surrender. But there are also more important considerations, like loyalty, devotion to one’s country, and ideals that history would never forget.

After chemistry, Jeremy went to his honors class in classics. Principal Elliot and most of the teachers had been delighted when Dr. Danforth, who was retiring from his position as an English professor in an eastern university, and had moved with his wife to live in their summer home in the country, offered to teach a course in Ancient Classics to capable students. Jeremy was intrigued by the class. They had been reading parts of Herodotus’ account of the wars between Greece and the mighty Persian Empire. When the Persians under Xerxes had crossed the Hellespont and were marching southward down the coast of the Aegean Sea to conquer the Greeks, the Spartan Leonidas and his three hundred men prepared to hold them off at the narrow pass between the mountains at Thermopylae. Early in the morning of the first

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day of battle, a Persian spy saw them exercising and combing their hair with great care, expecting that they would die. It was important to die in battle with your hair shining and properly combed. “Why would they feel that way?” asked the teacher.

Melvin, the class clown, pulled out an imaginary mirror and pretended to primp, using spit for dressing, the way Jeremy’s mother used to tame his cowlick before they entered the Evangelical Church service. Who knows why? Some professional football players seemed very keen to show their hair beneath their helmets. When former presidents Clinton and George Bush, Sr., appeared together on television, the younger Clinton proudly displayed a graying mane while the senior Bush’s thinning hair was so dark that it had apparently been dyed. Hair was important to people. Jeremy couldn’t get a handle on just why. Indeed, why did he spend so much time in front of the mirror combing his own dark, unruly hair, which he preferred cut long rather than short?

Led by Dr. Danforth, the class had relived the drama. On the first day of fighting, in a defile that was only fifty feet wide, the Persians, spurred on by vast numbers and whips from behind, were unable to prevail against the Spartans, who had longer spears and a strategy of pretending to run and then, at a given signal, wheeling to face the over-confident enemy.

At the end of the second day’s battle, a traitor to the Greeks showed the Persians a secret path over the hills. The enemy marched quietly in darkness, and at dawn were in a position to surround the Greeks. Leonidas and his brave three hundred chose not to flee. In the fierce battle that followed, every one of them fell, and so earned the immortality carved in the epitaph which was later placed on the ground where they died and were buried.

Go tell the Spartans, you who read:

We took their orders, and are dead.

Danforth also explained that the Spartans and Athenians had different values and lifestyles. Spartans were disciplined and lived by the rules that governed the community - strict, like Jeremy’s father. Among the Athenians, there was no common morality or accepted truth. Individual freedom and self-expression reigned supreme. When, after defeating the Persians, Sparta and Athens became rival empires, Pericles boasted in his famous funeral oration that in Athens, you come and go and do as you please, and yet the arts and the army flourish. Work is relieved by leisure, games and festivals. Aristophanes wrote comic plays which were full of vulgar language and references to homosexuality. His parody of Socrates, a fellow Athenian, portrayed him as a man who denies traditional gods and questions the importance of religion a basis for morality.

In another class Mr. Young, the social science teacher, talked about “culture wars” in our society. After that class, Jeremy remarked to his friend, Tommy, that it sounded as if half of America were Athenian and the other half Spartan. Jeremy was sure that he marched

with the Spartans.

That evening, the Goodrich boys and their mother and father were having their meal in the old cape farmhouse which stood on the corner of 180 acres of fields and woods. Their father, Evan, had sold the dairy herd when the bottom fell out of milk prices three years ago. The barn had taken on a vacant and seedy look. In the area of the cow stanchions, the smell of manure still lingered, as it did in the mudroom that separated the house and the garage. There the manure spattered boots and jackets formerly used in the barn by Evan and his sons remained in their places, stiff and covered with dust.

That odor always reminded Jeremy of his first date, which happened less than a year ago. Actually, it had been a double date, because his father did not yet trust Jeremy with the family car. While the other couple smooched, Jeremy escorted his date, a girl from another local farm, to her door. When you accompany a girl to her door, what is the real door, anyway? Jeremy followed her through the outer, mud room door and nervously closed it behind him, shutting out any illumination from the yard light. It was a chamber of pitch darkness and the smell of manurial boots. This was the moment. Do you ask a girl or do you just kiss her? Asking seemed too complicated. When he reached out to embrace her, his arms enclosed only emptiness. Then he saw 11:28 on a digital clock for just an instant as the door to the kitchen opened and closed with a light “thunk” and a click of the lock. Jeremy’s father now made a modest living as a handyman carpenter, plumber and electrician. The hayfields were rented to a neighboring farmer, and the pasture was surrendering to poplar and maple at a surprising rate. Only last spring, when Jeremy’s younger brother, Ben, was bending down in a marshy corner of the pasture to pick the fiddlehead ferns his mother always served to celebrate the coming of spring, he saw that the grass nearby was littered with the broken propellers of maple seeds that had blown there, spinning, from the nearby maple orchard.

Evan stabbed with his fork and ate the last brown crust of fried potato. He sat upright and then leaned forward while crossing his arms on the table, as might a judge before giving orders to the court.

“Boys, I’m sorry I can’t go with you tomorrow morning because I have to work. You are on your own, so I want some things understood. First, stay close to home. We have plenty of good hunting right on our own property. Second, if you see a buck with horns, shoot in the shoulder or front ribs. We don’t want to follow a gut shot deer to hell and back and then lose it to the coyotes.”

He looked at Jeremy. Last year’s incident was painful to remember. From the old wooden tree stand at the edge of the maple orchard, Jeremy had turned from his search of the open field where deer came to feed before dark to see a spikehorn buck walking through the trees behind him. As he raised his gun, the head of the animal disappeared behind a huge maple. By the time he found the deer in his trembling scope and pulled the trigger, only the belly and hindquarters were showing. The creature flinched and bounded over a small knoll. After dark, father and sons scanned the forest floor, their long flashlights

pointed horizontally and then downward. They saw where the animal had lain, and then resumed its escape, probably at the sound of their approach.

“I found a drop!”

Evan had to reach down and touch the red of a fallen maple leaf to see whether the crimson streak was blood.

“Jeremy, you stay put at the last drop, and we’ll fan out.” But the trail petered out and it was starting to rain. They tied a big white handkerchief on a branch where the last sign was discovered. Further searching at dawn in the rain drenched woods and fields yielded only trouser legs wet to the crotch. It would have been Jeremy’s first buck.

Evan raised his body to an erect posture of authority. “Finally, don’t under any circumstance cross the fence into the posted land that belongs to Michael Murphy.” Murphy was a stockbroker who lived on Beacon Street in Boston. His 225 acre abandoned farm adjoined theirs. They had built a modest summer home near where the original farmhouse had collapsed into its cellar hole. Once the Murphys had come up the Goodrich’s driveway for a brief visit. After he had introduced himself he explained about the yellow NO HUNTING signs that were visible every fifty yards.

“I know you are good neighbors as well as hunters. You can walk my land any time you want when it’s not deer season. But my wife can’t stand the thought of shooting those beautiful creatures. I hope you understand.” They understood, but Jeremy also wondered if Murphy were saving it for his relatives and cronies. Last hunting season he had seen a truck with Massachusetts license plates parked in a drive leading to one of Murphy’s fields. The Goodriches did not post their land. Was Murphy asserting the age old privilege claimed by aristocrats and royalty? At the spring vocal concert, in a clear, straight tone and with a facial expression tinged with sadness, Fiona Cunningham had sung an ancient ballad.

My Geordie will be hanged with a golden chain,

Tis not the chain of many.

He stole sixteen of the King’s royal deer

And he sold them in Boeny.

“So boys,” continued Evan, “don’t even think about going into Murphy’s land. We are principled and law abiding people, even if this fellow from down country goes against our customs. I don’t want to come home and see the game warden’s truck parked here and him with a trespassing complaint against us.”

Next morning Nelda Goodrich got up before dawn to make breakfast for her boys. As she turned the eggs, Jeremy, while lacing his boots, spied a slight frown, a tilt to his mother’s head which she wore when she was preoccupied.

“What are you thinking, Ma?”

“Oh, nothing.” That they were growing into manhood was vaguely disturbing to her.

Each had laid his hunting gear on a pile the night before: guns, hunting boots and socks, thermal underwear from Cabela’s. Ben

Continued on next page ...

set aside woolen plaid pants with matching jacket. Jeremy chose his camouflage pants and jacket lined with Thinsulate for warmth and Gor-Tex for protection in case of rain. Beside each pile was a small fanny pack for a water bottle, a sandwich, rope to drag the deer if they were lucky, and a knife. Next to that they placed their required blaze orange caps and vests.

During breakfast the brothers discussed strategy. Young Ben would take the old stand at the edge of the sugarwoods in the early morning and in the late afternoon. During midday, he might stalk on the ridge or even return to the house for a nap. Jeremy would go further afield, crossing the ridge to a newer, portable metal tree stand which overlooked a cluster of oaks whose acorns attracted deer and other animals. Beyond the oaks was a strip of hayfield which bordered Murphy's.

At 5:30 the boys opened the kitchen door to step into the darkness.

"Thanks for breakfast, Ma."

"Good luck, and be careful."

There was frost on the lawn and on Evan's truck, but no snow. In fact, the forecast was for a warm front to come in by late afternoon, with a possibility of rain by evening.

The aroma of bacon and eggs gave way to the sharp smells of pine, rotting leaves, and from someone's woodstove upwind in the valley. As they approached the maple orchard, Jeremy tapped Ben on the shoulder and pointed to the east with his knobby Coleman pocket flashlight. The boys knew their constellations. The entire eastern sky was dominated by Orion, the mighty hunter. To their left the Seven Sisters huddled on the horizon under the North Star.

Strapped in the seat of his stand, fifteen feet above the ground, Jeremy wondered what it was like to be a deer; if the mature bucks knew that this was the morning they were in danger from their most feared predator. For himself, it was a joy to be alive and to watch nature come awake. At first light, a small flock of late migrating wild ducks appeared overhead, flying from pond to pasture. Then the crows began their cawing of messages, unintelligible to most humans. A dozen wild turkeys emerged from nowhere, darting, scratching and pecking. Occasionally, one seemed to attack another, which would lift its wings and scramble away. At the edge of the hayfield Jeremy could see the row of NO HUNTING signs that marked the boundary of Murphy's property, yellow sentinels over a wall that was sometimes rock, sometimes fallen cedar rails, and sometimes rusted barbed wire nailed to trees.

At midmorning, Jeremy felt a need to pee and stretch. He would do some stalking. Alternating between quiet walking and a half hour of careful observing, he traversed the ridge until he had come full circle. By late afternoon he was growing impatient. Where the oaks met the field, he sat down and leaned against a cradling tree, weariness pulling at his eyes. He was jolted awake by the sight of a red fox trotting through the yellow stubble, all alertness, its tail an elegant plume ending in a white ball and its ears and nose pointed ea-

gerly forward. Jeremy had long ago observed that foxes are short-sighted, concentrating on the voles and other creatures immediately before them. If you were downwind from a fox and stood perfectly still, it could come within ten yards of you before running off.

At the sight of the fox, Jeremy was in the fifth grade in a circle of children during story hour. The teacher was telling about a boy who had a young fox hidden under his cloak.

Because that was forbidden in school, the boy did not show any sign of pain when the fox started to gnaw and claw at his intestines, even when he bled to death.

A fifth grader does not forget a tale like that. Now that he was so taken with the Spartans, Jeremy had googled the story on the internet. It was not quite as he had remembered it.

In his famous "Lives", Plutarch refers to the fox in his account of the traditions about the legendary lawgiver, Lycurgus. Plutarch writes that the boy had stolen the fox with the intention of eating it. He was not necessarily in school but could have been on the street in the presence of soldiers. In fact, in their training for manhood and soldiery, Spartan youth were expected to steal part of their food, even from the common mess halls, to help develop their stealth and cunning. This violation of conventional social rules was dishonorable and punishable only if they were caught. The punishment was humiliation or even severe public whipping. Enduring the whip earned one glory.

While musing about the fox story Jeremy's attention was suddenly drawn to where the field met the skyline far to his left. A huge deer crossed the open ground and leapt over the fence into Murphy's, its tail a vivid white flag flung toward the sky.

Jeremy jumped to his feet with fists clenched. This prize deer came from his territory, and now a rival hunter might claim it. Obedience to his father's principles warred with his own pent up yearning to bag a trophy he could brag about, as had Davy Corbin and others of his peers. And how vividly had he dreamed of presenting a token of his prize to Margaret!

Biting his lip, he leaned his gun against the tree from where he had just retrieved it, resting the barrel in the same curve of bark.

He removed his blaze orange cap and vest, and hid them under a pile of leaves. Turning right and keeping to the woods, Jeremy scurried to a point where the field narrowed to a funnel that touched the Murphy boundary and both properties became a cedar swamp. After crossing Murphy's line he turned left again and headed toward a place where the swamp gave way to higher ground. There, no more than fifty yards from the fence, was a cluster of wild apple trees bordered by cedars and alders. Pulling the hood of his camouflage jacket over his head, he pried an opening in the underbrush that presented a view of the tree with the most apples, a food that deer relish. Although the sky was clouding over, the apples were striking globes of bright red against the dim woods. Jeremy didn't even hear the first shot. All of his attention was drawn to a powerful blow to his lower right abdomen. Looking down, he saw the torn fabric of his jacket surrounded by a small circle of red. Then came the second shot, just as the deer, its huge antlers arching forward, bounded past to the safety of the swamp.

"I'm hit in the belly!" Jeremy whispered to himself, eyes wide with panic and disbelief.

Now he heard the sound of footsteps from deeper in Murphy's. A man with a mustache; stocky, middle-aged, and dressed in new hunting clothes from hat to boots, was approaching. He was talking to a companion with the aid of a phone device. His accent was thickly Bostonian. "I guess I missed. He was a beauty." The man turned in the direction from which he had come.

Jeremy felt no pain; only the realization that he must get to the fence line before yelling to the man or anyone else, for help. If he called now, his father would know, the game warden would know, the students at school, including Margaret, would know. People at church would know. Everyone would know.

With his left hand over the wound, and his right grasping his gun, he struggled through cedars and alders, arcing to the right along the swamp edge and the fifty yards to safety. His gut was hurting now; a gnawing, searing pain. As he pushed through the young cedars, his boots made sucking sounds in the mud. It felt as if water were oozing into one boot. When he looked down, he saw tree roots and muck, but not enough to cover the top of his shoe. The boot, he realized, was filling with blood! His heart was pounding and his breathing labored. Alder branches caught his gun and pulled it to the ground. From somewhere far away in memory, he again heard Fiona's voice as she sang her plaintive ballad.

Go saddle me my milk white steed

Go saddle me my pony

That I may ride to London's courts

To plead for the life of Geordie.

"Oh God, don't let me die!" He lunged through the brush, bucking the resisting branches with head and shoulders. Only twenty yards now separated him from the fence, but it was growing hard to make his legs obey him. The back of one of the yellow signs was clearly visible. Trees, the rock wall and gray clouds began slowly turning. Jeremy dropped to his knees. Pulling back the hood of his camouflage jacket, he ran his unbloodied hand several times through his disheveled hair. Then he went down.

In the dimming light he thought he saw the shade of Dientes, one of the bravest who died with Leonidas at Thermopylae. The soldier's glossy hair fell forward from above his shoulders as he knelt on the ground and laid down his long spear so that he could bend to hear what Jeremy was trying to say. Dientes tilted his head, almost touching the lad's lips with his ear. The message came out in a whisper.

"Ma...!"

Two hours later, in the woods across the fence, powerful flashlights were beacons that penetrated the dark and the rain both horizontally and downward.

"Jeremy! Jeremy, are you here?!" A coyote yelped somewhere across the valley, answered by the bark of a dog from a nearby farm. But from an outline of soggy camouflage just ten yards beyond the barrier of moss covered rock and rusted wire there was only the silence of one of the fallen.

Grandpop

By Carrie Askren

I would find Grandpop—pared down to guinea white tee, suspenders and Bermuda shorts—humming some Glenn Miller tune at the bathroom sink, the hot water running and the small room filling with steam. As I stood in the hall just outside the open bathroom door, he'd take his straight edge razor from the medicine cabinet, grab the leather strop hanging on the towel bar, and sharpen the razor—back and forth, back and forth—over the strop. Then he'd turn off the faucet, grab a towel, wipe the mirror to see, and drape the towel around his neck. Smiling sideways at me, and still humming, he'd swish his white ceramic-handled shaving brush around inside a cup, set the cup down on the sink edge, splash his face with hot water, pick up the brush again and spread white foam on his big, round cheeks and chin. Very carefully, with his left hand holding his face taut and his right elbow pointed up at an angle, he'd carefully stroke the straight edge over his graying brown whiskers. And when he finished, he'd splash off the remaining bits of foam, pat his face dry, shake Old Spice into his open hands and slap his cheeks. He'd grab his short-sleeved white shirt off the back of the door, put it on, and, holding his paunch stomach in a bit, carefully tuck the shirt into his pants and adjust his suspenders. Then, after all that, he'd bend down and press his smooth, sweet-smelling cheek against mine in a soft, sideways kiss.

So I never minded much that my mom, a phone operator working the weekend shift, left me with my grandparents Saturday mornings. If not for Grandpop—my mother's dad Frank Sturdevant—I would not have learned about shaving and the other things that four-year-olds need to know that grown men do.

I never saw my father shave. Or mow a lawn or paint the house or take out trash. My father was stationed in Korea when he received the telegram: 6 POUND BABY GIRL 2 MAR CORONA NAVAL HOSPITAL X MOTHER AND BABY DOING WELL. And shortly after his tour of duty ended three years later, he and my mother divorced.

Grandpop lived with my Grandma in Riverside, California. A carpenter at heart, he built her a neat, white, two-bedroom craftsman-style home with a front porch and a wooden swing—the kind that hangs from the porch ceiling and holds three or four people snuggled together on its broad cushion.

My mother always said that when she was a girl, a night on the town meant supper at a pancake house and a drive to the beach or the park in Grandpop's black Willys. Things didn't change much after I came along in 1954.

I remember Grandpop and me sitting on the porch swing and talking—about the weather or the pansies blooming or the shaggy palm tree that needed trimming in their postage-stamp-size front yard. Sometimes I would swing alone, but I still felt connected as I listened to him hum and watched him paint the porch railing, trim the oleander hedge or mow the lawn.

We wouldn't stay long at the house, though. Grandpop would put away his tools, announce that he had to run an errand, and ask if I'd like to join him. I never refused. For five years I reveled in being the only grandchild. I'd follow him into the kitchen where Grandma would hand us a bag of popcorn or roasted peanuts in the shells, and then I'd skip out the door after him.

The errand—usually a quick trip the supermarket for a few items Grandma needed for supper—was saved for last. First we'd drive to Fairmount Park to feed the ducks. Then we'd drive to Sambo's, a pancake house. Grandpa pointed to the folktrale scenes painted on the

upper portion of the walls of the restaurant. Sambo, a dark-skinned boy from India, saved himself from tigers by tricking them into chasing each other around a tree so quickly that they turned into butter.

“Order the pancakes, Carrie Ann. They'll stick to your ribs,” Grandpop would say.

Sometimes I did. The fancy syrups, including pineapple, strawberry and blueberry, were enticing. But usually I'd insist on ice cream—chocolate. He'd order a cup of Sanka, an instant decaf coffee, and add lots of milk and sugar.

When we finished, he would say, “Not bad for a quick pick-me-up.”

After my parents moved away from Southern California, my visits with Grandpop were limited to holidays. One Thanksgiving Grandpop opened a worn leather-topped trunk, rummaged around, and pulled out some fat scrapbooks filled with what must have been thirty years of news clippings. I couldn't have been older than 8, but he talked to me as if I understood everything on those ragged pages.

I didn't have a clue about the wars, Hiroshima, the Depression, Hoover, Truman, Eisenhower, Ronald Reagan, or communism. But I knew from the serious tone in Grandpop's voice that these words and pictures held weight.

He said, “Someday you'll study all this in school. You're smart, Carrie. Do what your teachers tell you, and you'll end up knowing more than I do.”

Modesty suited Grandpop, an eighth grade graduate and a retired postal worker, but in no way limited his grandness. After this first encounter with him as a collector, I began keeping my own scrapbook, and I became determined to study hard in school.

Two years later, during another holiday visit, Grandpop asked me to spot for him while he climbed a ladder to open the trap door to their attic. He disappeared into the dark opening for a few moments. At about 5 foot 7 inches tall and 160 pounds, Grandpop had a small pot belly, but he wasn't a large man. Still the ceiling in the old house creaked and groaned as he walked around overhead.

He reappeared carrying a large soup can-sized silver tin. Handing it to me, Grandpop said, “I want you to have these.” The tin was heavy. I couldn't imagine what was inside.

“What is it?” I asked.

Grandpop used the pocket knife he always carried—the same one he'd use to peel a Christmas stocking apple and slice off pieces for me—to pry open the lid. Inside were dozens of marbles—pures, boulders and cat's eyes of every color and size.

“Wow!” I exclaimed. “Look at all of them. All different, and so pretty!”

“Share them with your younger brother and sisters,” he advised.

Over time, Grandpop showed me his other collections, too. Coins, stamps, his army uniform, stars and medals.

“Nothing special here. I never got a purple heart, just thought this would interest you,” he said. I basked in the attention; he had my heart, and that's all that mattered.

As my parents moved us around the country, I wrote to Grandma and him regularly, hoping he'd save the stamps with the different postmarks: Phoenix, Arizona; Denson, Texas; Virginia Beach, Virginia; Staten Island, NY; Washington, D.C.; St. Johnsbury, Vermont; Chicago, Illinois; San Jose, California. Between holiday visits I'd watch the mailbox for letters and cards.

Grandma and Grandpop never forgot birthdays or special occasions. Grandma wrote me long letters detailing her social, cooking and gardening activities.

Grandpop's habit was to enclose a dollar or two inside a single, neatly folded note-paper that read, simply, “Buy some peanuts and popcorn. Love, Grandpop.”

When I was a senior in high school, Grandpop took me back to Sambo's after it had been re-named the International House of Pancakes. If he liked the old name better, he never said so. But he still called it Sambo's, and I couldn't summon the nerve to discuss issues of political correctness with him.

But while sharing with me the children's story of the boy and the tigers never lost its power for him, he did acknowledge I had become a young woman. Following our trip to Sambo's, on our drive through the park, Grandpop stopped the car just a few yards from the pond where we had on many occasions fed ducks. This time the ducks were gone, but he gestured towards a couple was sitting on a blanket, arm in arm, eating a picnic lunch.

“This is a great place. See those two making love? That's what people do when they really care about each other. It's a good thing, you know.”

His words made me pause. I had never heard the expression “making love” before. “Lovemaking”, I thought, meant having sex, but Grandpop was talking about something different. I wondered if he knew I had fallen in love.

“Yes, Grandpop,” was all I said.

In 1974, the summer after my sophomore year in college, my young husband Ed and I, newlyweds, had scraped together the gas money for a cross country drive in an old white Saab station wagon. I had not heard from Grandpop since high school graduation. And living in Vermont and being a poor student had made travel to California difficult.

But my relatives written to me saying that they were worried about him. He hadn't been the same since Grandma had passed on. He didn't eat right or go out much.

“Go see him—before it's too late,” my mother told me.

So we turned down Grandpop's street below Rubidoux hill, and arrived to see the porch still neatly painted, though the swing cushionless. Grandpop opened the door, smiling, and he seemed smaller than I'd remembered. But the kind crinkles around his brown eyes told us he was pleased that we'd come to visit. He poured us cold lemonades, himself an ice coffee, and then let Ed and me do most of the talking.

We told him about our trip through the Rockies, about UVM, our studies, our cat, our apartment, and summer jobs. He smiled and nodded, but said little. And when we had to go, he hummed as he walked a bit unsteadily down the front steps with us and across the yard to our car. I hugged him, Ed shook his hand, and then Grandpop reached into his shirt chest pocket, pulled out a small envelope and pressed it into my hand. I opened the envelope to find a neatly folded slip of notepaper. Inside was a tightly folded \$50 bill. On the paper in Grandpop's unmistakable scrawl were the words “Remember the peanuts and popcorn.”

I could barely whisper thank you as I hugged him once more. My throat choked out good-bye and my eyes welled up, but Grandpop smiled and nodded, wished us a safe trip, and turned and walked away. I didn't stop watching him until he'd disappeared back into that neat white frame house.

Theater

By Mary Wheeler

Ba-Boom. My heart pounded intensely through my lanky costume like a treacherous thunderstorm ready to strike. Ba- Boom. A trickle of sweat from the fluorescent lights cascaded down my already damp forehead and landed with a silent thud onto the dingy stage. Ba-Boom. Every part of my adolescent body trembled in fear as anxious thoughts of missed lines raced through my mind. Ba- Boom. As those first few lines left my parched mouth, I began to feel the confidence of a 25-year theater veteran emerge from nowhere. In front of hundreds of unknown faces, my racing heart slowly returned to a normal consistency. At that moment, that very moment everything came together. My hands slowly stopped trembling as the excited feeling of performing on a real stage melted an image of satisfaction into my mind. The lights were still glowing on my made-up face when I knew at that moment I had discovered my passion.

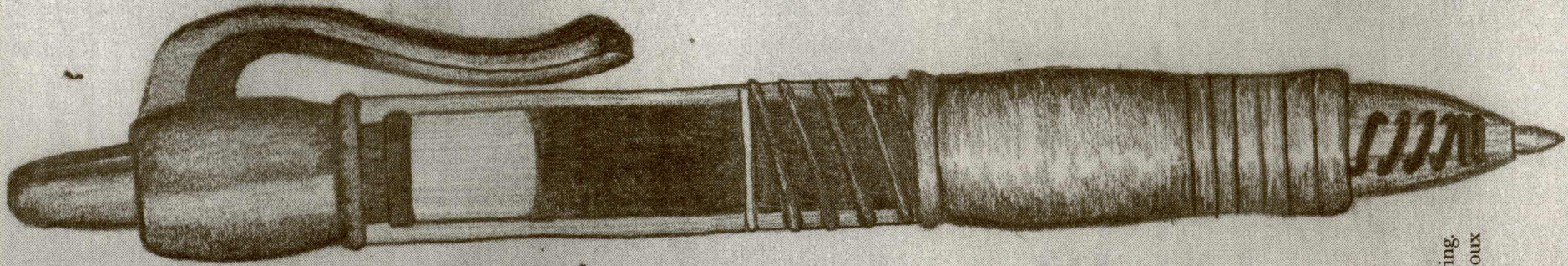
The year was 1992 when an interest for theater entered my imagination. Sitting in my first grade classroom the environment smelling of permanent paint and carpet cleaners, my teacher Mrs. Cassidy asked us the trivial question of what we wanted to be when we grew up and to express that idea through a picture. While many of my classmates recited professions that their parents would approve of (a fireman, teacher, or doctor) I knew that mine would be different. I knew that I wanted to be an actress. At six years old, there was something so intriguing and glamorous about the life of a movie star. I would sit in front of my parent's 13 inch television set, mesmerized by the sparkling lights, fancy clothing, and expensive cars associated with the profession. Even as a child, I desired one and only one thing. Attention. And by becoming an actress I knew I would achieve just that.

When it came time to share our pictures, mine seemed out of place in the mix of classic professions. Billy had drawn a sickly looking dog to describe his goal of becoming a veterinarian. Crystal had sketched out a chalkboard type device to demonstrate her desire to become a teacher. And then the spotlight was on me. Thirty sets of eyes all stared in utter confusion at my creation. I had drawn a huge purple stage with screeching blue and yellow lights coming from various directions. In the center was myself, a huge stick person, wearing a cape like dress, hideously ugly shoes, and painted up with huge red lips and cheeks. "You want to be an actress?" I was asked followed by a chorus of giggles and sneers. My smiles soon transcended into disbelief and sadness by my peer's reactions. Even Mrs. Cassidy seemed doubtful of my career aspirations, but smiled, said nothing and moved onto the next student. This wasn't the first and certainly wouldn't be the last time one of my passions would be mocked by my peers. I went through various stages in my life that were filled with hobbies and interests I thought I wanted to pursue. Unfortunately, I failed miserably at every new endeavor. It seemed as if whatever new talents I tried, I never felt the same fulfillment I felt while I was performing on stage. First there was the infatuation to play the violin when I was twelve. I soon realized you needed patience and determination to play an instrument, both qualities I didn't possess. Then I had a fascination with astrology but

that soon ended in failure when I couldn't tell the difference between the Big Dipper and the Milky Way. But theater was always ingrained in the back of my mind as something I could do, and was good at.

Theater seemed to disappear from my life for close to a decade, when suddenly as if it had fallen from the sky, reappeared during my freshmen year of high school. The fall play was none other than William Shakespeare's "Hamlet," a script and an era I had no prior knowledge of but knew anything by Shakespeare would be demanding. I knew the competition would be intense as many of my fellow classmates had more experience and would be buying for the leading roles. Despite this struggle, I made the decision just for a good laugh to audition for the leading role of Ophelia, knowing very well that I stood no chance of actually getting it. Little did I know that my "nothing to loose," attitude would cause some series drama in the drama department. When news spread that a "green" actress would be auditioning for one of the leading roles, I was met with hostile reactions. "You don't know anything about Shakespeare, and you can't even speak with an English accent," said one of the so called golden actors Sam. Despite having a reasonable amount of talent and experience, he had an ego the size of the Grand Canyon. I can still hear his voice bragging about an audition he had just completed, or an agent who would be representing him in New York. It was people like him that made me want to quit theater. But it was also people like him that made me work even harder to prove myself as an actress. I did in fact land a role in "Hamlet," and several other plays throughout high school. The experiences were truly amazing. Stepping onto that stage with so much to prove to my peers provided such an adrenaline rush. I was no longer myself, but a unique and incredible person that I could in no way relate to. I realized the more I performed, the more confidence I gained in my abilities and my potential, not only on stage, but in my actual life. In a sense, theater inspired me to look outside my own surroundings and see the world through a different pair of eyes.

Theater has always been a struggle and will continue to challenge me, not only through the characters that I play, but also with the competition. Sadly, I know I will never be the actress I once envisioned myself to be. However it's a comforting feeling knowing that theater isn't meant for me as a professional career, but rather as an interest and a passion. I had no idea what an influential role theater would play in my adult life. Now I perform because of the connection I make to certain characters. There's no greater experience to be able to play a character that in some small way represents a part of you. Performing is no longer about the glitz and the glamour that I once fanaticized about. It's no longer about a game or how much attention I receive. It's about portraying real people to an audience of real people.



Still life drawing.
By Jade Chaloux

The Natural Order of Chaos

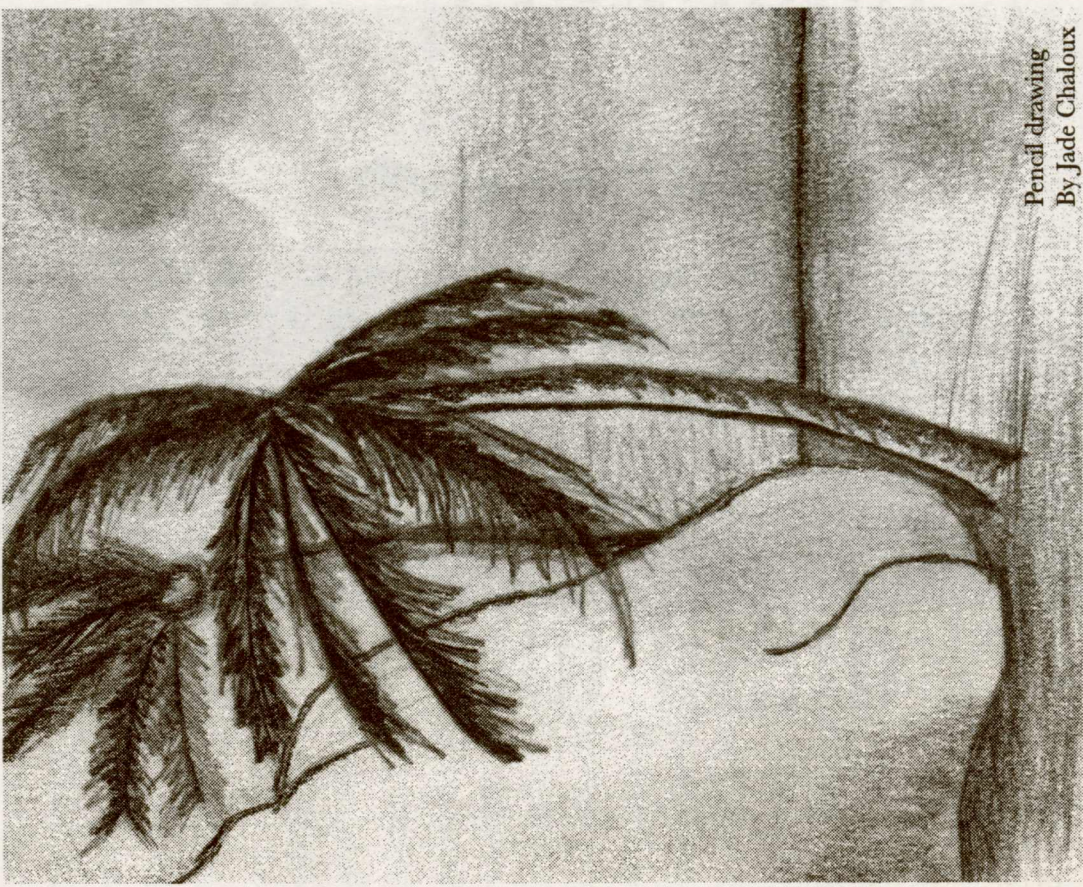
The natural order of chaos
resides like a human aura
a density where reds, purples and neons
blend, combine and greet

Earth's universal heart beat
fluctuates from seven to eight-point-three
echoes per second
Intrawinding zero-points
of space and time

Providing birth and creativity
Infinity becomes the moment
spent in a pale lover's arms
a night of jazz in New Orleans

a personal exchange over Emily Dickenson
strawberries, and white wine

The natural order of chaos
confirms and owes eternity
to the loving glance
from starlike hazel specks
Emanating or reflecting in well-known eyes
Or the stranger's passing by



Pencil drawing
By Jade Chaloux

Amsterdam

By Carrie Askren

Upon reaching the wizened, white-haired age of seventy.
Upon reaching that long-sought-after consensus,
first with your dread-locked,
bushy-bearded, decades younger cohorts
in abandoned factory digs,
then again with the Dutch parliament.
Upon hearing the announcement on newscasts,
and milling, clamouring videographers
interviewing you and the no-longer pushers,
all hip,
on those cobblestone streets.

National health insurance will now cover medicinal use,
relieving anyone of pushing marijuana to unfortunates
with cancer, with AIDS, with multiple sclerosis.
You smiled, toothless and exhausted.

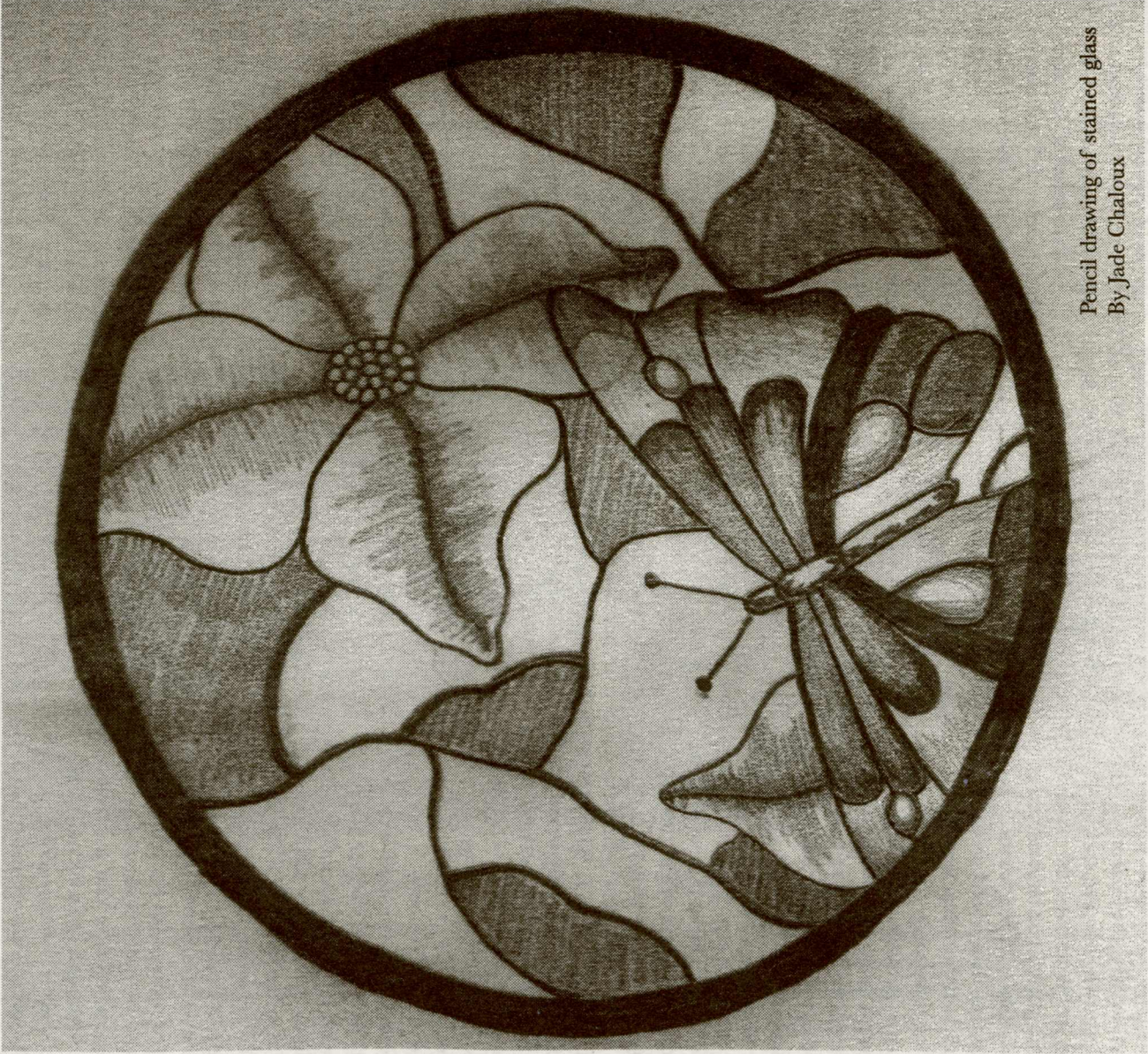
At a bar in the Red Light District
a Guinness and a Jameson for an Irishman from New York?
you asked, not a cent in your threadbare pocket.
Law relaxed, you realized with each charitable sip,
not just because of your
write-letters-to-the-government-park-bench-newspaper-cardboard-box life.

You never afforded that trip to India,
but in the States you knew autumn in Vermont,
played stand-up bass at night clubs in Franconia, N.H., and Chicago, Ill.
kissed a brunette on Newport beach,
dropped acid in San Bernardino,
served time in San Quentin,
tasted peyote on an Arizona reservation.

Even after the long forgetting, you remembered
an only son, grown, joining you once at Shea Stadium,
a baseball fan, too—except
his eyes brown, his dress conservative,
his team the Red Sox.

But the others—a sister, nieces and nephews, lovers and two ex-wives,
five daughters, uncounted grandchildren—
forsook you
pony-tailed-hippie-good-for-nothing-doper.

You smoked your last ticket home,
a sweet flight by any name—
Mary Jane, pot, tea, cannabis, hemp.
Happily arriving,
you coughed in your sleep—
they emailed us—
and died.



Pencil drawing of stained glass
By Jade Chaloux

A Portrait of a Young Man as an Idiot

By Joshua James Gervias

My strongest memory of my trip across the country is a sunrise somewhere between Salt Lake City and Portland. I had been awake for most of the night and the entire world look old and faded; washed out by the new day. I sat next to the window in a Greyhound bus full of sleeping people. I'd drift in and out of sleeping having the most out of place thought. It seemed the man next to me was the devil. He seemed innocent enough if not a bit odd. He had lived in Australia for a great deal of time, and was traveling to Vancouver to visit his bank and then back to New York in hopes of catching the Concord in time to ring in the New Year in England. He mad for Get Smart which he had only recently saw. I remember him telling me about bank robberies; I think that was the reason I attached a such sinister aspect to him.

By this point I had been on and off the bus over four full days. I never slept in the bus stations and I had too much gear to travel far enough to get something to eat anything other than what I could get at a bus station or the gas station. Thoughts crawled through my brain: Was this trip really worth it? Going all the way across the country to see her when I knew she was seeing someone else. Did she really want me to come anyway? It didn't seem that she believed that I would come to visit her since she neglected to mention it to the family she was staying with until after I arrived.

I started the trip one the first day of my holiday break at UVM. I had brought two books with me: Chuck Palahniuk's Fight Club and some other book. But time seems to stretch and contort on the bus; I finished my books early on the second day and was writing bad haiku by the time I hit my seven hour layover in Chicago. On that way back a young man that said he was fresh out of rehab for marijuana nearly vomited on me in that same station; I feel bad when the bus left with his bags on board while he was still in the bus station restroom.

The worst part was the day before, going through the Rocky Mountains. I enjoyed the beautiful scenery for the first hour or so, but then the mind crushing sameness of it all started to set in. The caffeine pills I took after we passed Denver probably didn't help matters; they only served to make me more nervous. The air seemed very thin, the roads far too narrow, and the bus moved far too quickly. I wanted nothing more than to escape that cursed place and never see it again. Then I got to Grand Junction, and I just wished I was back on bus. I spent over five hours in that dusty little town, trying to contact her to tell her I'd be late, and entertain myself. At this point was supposed to be in Portland.

It seemed like time itself was against me trying to keep me on the bus. At one point a driver decided that the passengers were rude and went back to the bus station. Then I hit Nebraska; a snow storm kept me there for half a day and sent me on the detour that put me in Colorado instead of passing through Montana.

My final arrival at the Portland bus station was joyous, though somewhat tainted by my being uncertain if I had a place to stay for the next month and a creeping sick feeling. It was the first time I had seen her in person for six months. Her father decided that he was going back to Oregon after her little sister decided she wanted to live with her father again. She looked into staying with her grandmother and we even considered getting married, but in the end she left. It wasn't until a few month later that she broke up with me.

The first night she took me out to a theme restaurant that served a variety of different kinds of hamburgers; I had commented that I was lucky if UVM's dining halls served a decent meat dish once a week. I ordered a burger with mushrooms, but the sick feeling kept me from finishing it. I got over the physical illness after a day, but I remained out of sorts.

Being a geek I appreciated living with a greeky family. Their apartment was filled with videos, books, and games; it was a pleasure to know them. The family consisted of a mother and father, two sons, and a daughter. She also lived in the apartment with her new boyfriend as well as another young man; a friend of the father. It was an open household with people going in and out regularly.

I made the strongest connection with the older son who was a bear of a human being, though he was more of a large teddy bear than any sort of dangerous

animal. He affected an accent of his devising which may seem like a pretentious or bizarre thing to do, but after a while I grew to like it a great deal. I imagined that the denizens of Middle Earth might sound a lot like him. Of course that might have to do with the fact he read Tolkien's books aloud to his mother and siblings.

During the trip I took up drinking in earnest. My previous history with drink was quite short. An affliction living with the person you love and that person's new significant other is a sure for. I generally got mine from the friend of the father in exchange I never hesitated to give two bucks when he wanted to pick up a forty for himself; I was nineteen at that time.

I saw some of the sights of Portland and the surrounding area, I went to the largest mall I had ever seen, and after some fight I bought one hundred dollars worth of laser challenge gear which it for all I know still in her (now ex-) boyfriend's house. We fought fairly often during those days; our friendship didn't work as well without our relationship.

In an exceptional moment of drunkenness her new boyfriend decided to bring out his collection of bad poetry and other mementoes of adolescence. I was drunk enough to sit there and look at the stuff. Later as we walked to get cigarettes I told that him I hated him, but it didn't seem to matter at the time. I was full of the spirit of friendship.

We went to her mother's house for New Year's Eve. We had bottle rockets and we fired off her mother's shotgun. There was a surprising lack of alcohol, most of us were low on money at the time. Her mother is by far the coolest mother I have ever met. I almost wish she would adopt me, except for the obvious problems that would pose.

The plan was for her to go back to Burlington with me by way of Boston for a science fiction convention with some of my friends from college. This lead to a large fight between the two of us. She decided that it wasn't such a good idea to leave her boyfriend for a month to live with her ex-boyfriend; a reasonable decision, but I'm selfish and wanted her to go anyway. There was also the matter of the reservation at the convention I had already made in her name. I had given up on the matter when we went to buy my return ticket (since I was going to Boston and decided to go. She intentionally didn't talk to me for the first day of the trip. I didn't get many chances to talk to her after she started talking to me again; everyone person taking the bus alone wants to sit alone on a bus and it was hard to find pairs of seats so we could sit together.

The trip back was less eventful than the first, though one thing of note occurred. A man lost his CD player and the man sitting next to him took it upon himself to sweep up and down the bus demanding that everyone open their bags so he could search them. I happened to have two CD players in my bag (mine and hers) and worried what this man would do if he decided I was the thief. At the next stop someone found the CD player under the seats.

There was one thing I didn't think about when I asked her to come back to school with me; I had to feed her. Along with the money I spent during the trip took most of my funds. Which means when she decided she wanted to take a plane home I didn't have the money to send her; so instead of staying for a month she stayed for two and a half months before she could get the money to get home.

The grand adventure ended in an airport in New Hampshire. To catch her morning flight we had to take a bus over the afternoon before and spend the night in the airport. We found an out of the way place and went tried to sleep using our jackets as pillow. I got home and walked back up to school in the rain and late winter slush. I haven't seen her since, and it been over a year since I talked to her on the phone. She has had trouble staying at a single phone number, and I haven't had a way to reach her for over two years. Maybe she lost my number again, or maybe, like me, she has given up as well.

Another Mourning—for my daughter

By Susan Sanders

By the time night falls
you walk backward beneath
dark glass
inside another land.

It's too late to find a way home
other winds brush across your
soft face your dead voice sleeps

in my sleep where I lie
forgetting sharp words which
passed like knives between us.

Sunday's are God's curse, an
invisible hand strikes across
the scorned sky
I try to hide but there is

No power to raise from the earth.
Forever is a simple promise
usually broken by morning

locked in silent hours of regret
I hold pictures, that stare back
Hard my daughter
You are really gone.

Iraq continued from page 4.....

Intelligence missions included rounding up suspects for interrogation. When they had custody of someone who was to be interrogated, Marsh's squad would travel to FOB Kalsu, a base about 50 miles south of Baghdad where interrogation sessions were held. Sometimes Marsh was in the room during these sessions, to protect the interrogator and/or interpreter.

Just after an interrogation on May 25th, four days after Marsh's 24th

got home. His leave was extended another week, but then he had to fly back to BIAP. When he returned to Iraq after his father's death, Marsh couldn't find much time to grieve. "I can't be thinking about it when I'm trying to keep myself alive," he said.

Marsh's squad had been reassigned by the time he got back to it. Now they were escorting an Army JAG, who was a direct adviser to

just back, the military is all discipline; it's hard to adjust to be laid back."

When Marsh's battalion landed at Burlington International Airport, Marsh noticed "a lot of snow, and the runways were iced." The families of the returning soldiers were waiting in a hangar at the airport. Marsh and the other men marched a short distance from the airplane to the hangar, and then the hangar doors were opened, and families welcomed their soldiers home.

Coming home raised some feelings Marsh had "had to put on the backburner," while in Iraq. For Marsh, the return home was bittersweet because of the loss of his father. "I didn't really want any kind of celebration," Marsh said. "I wasn't really all that psyched to be back." Being back home, no longer facing matters of life and death on a daily basis, Marsh found the opportunity to mourn the loss of his father.

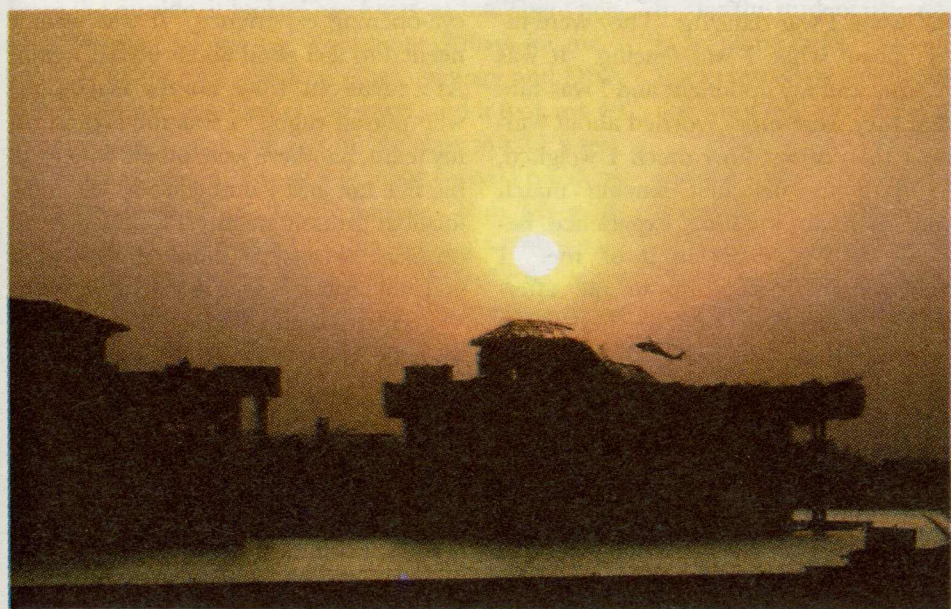
Marsh might not have been that happy to be home, but his mom was glad to have him back. Marsh's mother watched the war in Iraq on CNN. Sometimes the news would show fighting near where Marsh was stationed, and she

When he first got home, Marsh would only sleep an hour or two a night. After a while, Marsh became comfortable again being a civilian. Marsh spent some solitary time dealing with his father's death and getting readjusted to life at home. "It's hard talking about how I feel to other people because they can't relate to the stress of being in Iraq."

Marsh's time in Iraq has changed his perspective on life in America. The poverty of Iraq "makes you appreciate what we have here, it opens your eyes." Marsh sees people around him taking material things for granted while people in poor countries struggle to survive. "After seeing how people in other parts of the world have to live, I realized we've got it real good."

Marsh is happy where he is now. He works at Rent-A-Center in St. Johnsbury, but would like to own a business someday, possibly in real estate. "Maybe one day I'll wake up and want to do something else."

Marsh was never injured during his tour, and was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for his service. He has 11 more years until retirement from the National Guard, and then he'll be



Bombed palace, helicopter, sunset
Photograph by Isaac Marsh

birthday, Kalsu was hit by a mortar attack. Marsh and a member of his team were just getting outside when the attack began. Marsh and the other squad member jumped into a bunker they were walking right next to. At one point during the attack, Marsh and his buddy helped a soldier, who had pulled his ankle running across the base, get inside the bunker. About 20 mortars fell in five minutes. "It was so loud," Marsh remembers. "You could hear the shrapnel zinging off sandbags and bunker roofs."

After the attack was over, Marsh ran to where his squad was to see if they were ok. When the attack started, most of the squad had ducked into the bunker they were next to. Unfortunately, the bunker had a hole in the corner that allowed shrapnel to fly through. From Marsh's squad, two were killed, and three were sent home because of their injuries. Three others were wounded but returned to duty in Iraq. "The bunker was con-

Donald Rumsfeld, when he traveled around Baghdad. "Sometimes we'd go into some pretty hairy areas, and there'd be so many people and so much going on, you don't want to think about what could happen," he said.

When Marsh and his squad weren't on a particular mission, they would help distribute goods and supplies to Iraqis. "We're trying to show that we're not there to kill everyone, we're there to help out," Marsh said. Sometimes his squad would provide security for recovery operations. They would escort flatbed trucks to clean up damaged or destroyed vehicles or heavy machinery. "Sometimes we would be shot at while we were escorting the trucks," Marsh said. "Usually we didn't know where we were being shot at from."

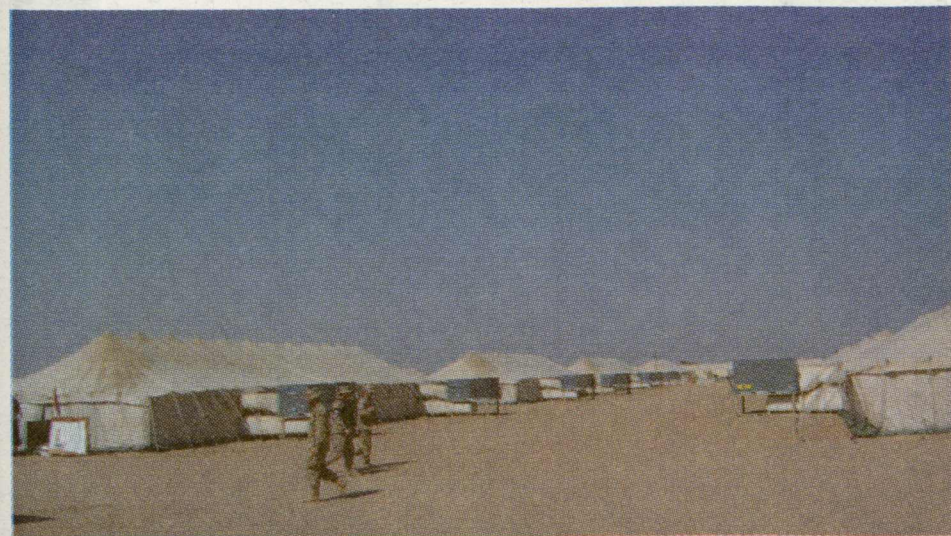
In February of 2005, the 1st of the 86th left Iraq and flew back to the States. Marsh returned to Fort Dix for demobilization. During demobilization, soldiers are debriefed and given



Getting the gun ready
Photograph by Isaac Marsh

wouldn't talk to her son for a few days and not know how he was. "She would see bad stuff on TV about Baghdad, and she knew I was there, and she'd worry," Marsh said. "It feels good to know she doesn't have to worry anymore."

eligible for a pension check. Marsh's current contract with the Guard will be over at the end of this summer, but he doesn't know yet if he wants to re-sign and try to make it to retirement; if he stays in, his group could be called up



Camp Victory Kuwait
Photograph by Isaac Marsh

structed poorly, and a mortar landed a few feet from it," he commented.

In June Marsh returned home on leave for two weeks. In October, Marsh was given two weeks leave again, this time because his father was dying. His father passed away a week after Marsh

medical exams to make sure they're not returning with any diseases or sicknesses from overseas. They also undergo counseling sessions to help them readjust to civilian life. Getting used to life back in Vermont wasn't that easy for Marsh. "It's hard to ad-



Photograph by Isaac Marsh

"I partied a lot when I got back from Iraq, hung out with a lot of people I hadn't seen for a long time. I would do a lot of spontaneous things," Marsh said. That spontaneity came from the uncertainty of life in Iraq, and dealing with life and death on a daily basis.

again. "You don't even think it could happen, and then you get called up and have to go wherever they want to send you. It'll feel nice knowing my whole world won't get turned up-side down again."

Dancing up a Storm, Pokin for Fun

By Sara Morehouse

Some people look at me like I'm crazy when I say that I did ballet, tap, and jazz dancing for eleven years before I came to college. I can't say that I blame them. I have always been a heavy girl and the only reason I started dancing when I was seven was so that I could lose weight.

My reasons changed the first time my teacher told us to walk to the middle of the floor and begin practicing. It was exhilarating. I had found something that made me happy and, while I was not the best dancer in the class, I was most certainly not the worst. It was freedom.

I had this mask that I hid behind during school. I was the quiet, intelligent loner who would sit in the corner of the room and ignore those around me. Dancing was the one time I felt that I was able to take off that mask and be the real me.

I was the butt of many jokes when people found out that I was a ballerina. They told me that I didn't have the body for it. Obviously, I already knew that. The first step I had to take towards being comfortable with myself was to not let their opinions get to me. It was hard because I almost couldn't escape them, but I found that if you ignore them, they lose interest in teasing you. If you don't show your reaction, they won't have any fun making fun of you, so they'll stop. It might take them awhile, but they do.

At my first recital, I was shaking violently before we went out on stage. All I could think about was all the people watching me and how they

would make fun of the biggest girl in the class. That's not a great thought to have right before you perform. Thankfully, when I stepped onstage, I focused on the movement and the music, forgetting completely about the audience. I finally noticed them when the song ended, not because of jeers and snickering, but because of cheers and applause.

I know that I wasn't the only one on the stage, but there was absolutely no one who was reacting negatively from what I could hear. After leaving the stage that night (and after every recital I was in after that), I had so many people come up to me and tell me how impressed they were that I could keep up and do the same moves that girls half my size were doing. The second step I had to take was accepting and believing the praise that I was getting. It's hard to do that when, for your entire life, your peers look down on you because you're different. Just because of my weight, I was almost always that outcast in my classes. I was the one working on my own in the corner. The praise I received from everyone gave me the confidence to take a step out of that corner that I had been placed in so early in life. I gained confidence in myself and started acting how the real me was, the one I was hiding.

Along with being a dancer, I fenced. Now, I know that the image of a larger girl wearing white spandex is not exactly the kind of image that many people enjoy; but, even though it bothered me to wear it in front of so many people, once

I put on my mask and I started fencing, I forgot about the people watching. It was kind of hard to do, because when I fenced in high school, they only had two matches going on at once. That means somewhere around a quarter of the audience's attention would be focused on me and me alone. They did, however, fade into the background, just like they did when I was dancing. They were insignificant while I was fencing. It was just me and my opponent and I was sure that they were more worried about winning than about how much I weighed.

Winning my first fencing match was such an uplifting experience because no one expected it of me. I had people walking up to me afterwards, telling me that they had never seen me act so aggressive. I would just smile at them and know that I didn't have to hide as much of me anymore.

When I left for college, I realized that I would not have either dancing or fencing and that was frightening. The two things that I felt really good doing, I could no longer do. The first two weeks of college, I didn't know what to do with myself. I read, I did homework, I played videogames, but nothing made me feel like I did when I was dancing or fencing.

I took out my mask and hid behind it because I wasn't sure how people would react to the real me and I kind of didn't want to find out.

One afternoon, while I was doing homework, I heard commotion in the hallway and went out to see what

was going on. There was a group of girls there and they handed me a flyer and said, "Come join rugby!" That was the extent of the conversation, but that was all that was necessary. I stared at the flyer for a while and made up my mind. I was going to join rugby and, if I liked it, I would stick with it.

The first practice I went to was an eye-opening experience. It was what I needed to feel good about myself again. As it turns out, I was not the biggest girl who played rugby. I was the biggest on my team, but there were others who were big like me and I immediately felt comfortable around them. Playing was no problem because it didn't matter what you looked like, as long as you played well.

The third and final step I had to take towards accepting myself and being comfortable with myself was learning that it doesn't matter what others think of you. The only person that matters when it comes to how they think of you is yourself. If you have the confidence to go out and do things, even if others tell you that you can't and you shouldn't, then the others truly don't matter. You have the freedom to make your own choices for a reason.

Because of my experiences, I made a huge decision for myself not long ago. I picked up that mask that I hid behind, I opened my window, and I threw it out. I didn't need it any longer. I was comfortable with myself and didn't care what others thought of me.

Developing an English-Language School New Exciting Task

By Jess Rexford

Elaine Razzano, a current English professor at Lyndon State College, recently took her sabbatical as she was given the opportunity to become involved in developing an English-language school in Baotou, China. This opportunity came about through an American friend who asked her to assist a Chinese man in developing the curriculum of a new proprietary school in a city of two million. The American had taught in this part of China in 1993 and came up with idea of an English-language school as a way of giving back to the people living there. Although it was his idea, he currently doesn't make any money from it, he just wanted to provide another learning opportunity for people in the area. She accepted this opportunity for its excitement and it has become a memorable experience.

Elaine had taught and lived in a different and smaller area of the country from 1988 to 1989. With her expertise in English and familiarity with the country, she made an effective contribution to setting up this English-language school. The school started in 2004. Mostly adults attend the school as tuition is charged and more affordable for them. Yet the age range of students that attend the school is between 14-60 years old.

Elaine went to Baotou, China in the summer of 2005 to teach at the school and assist in getting it started. Currently they now recruit teachers for a contract of approximately 10 months. This contract includes a monthly payment of \$325 (doctors from this area make less than that), free housing which includes a furnished apartment with free utilities, free local telephone calls, cable television, suitable furniture, cooking and bathroom facilities, and subsidized medical service that is in accordance with China's medical system during their period of service as well as other benefits.

Teaching takes place six days a week and often in the evening or even on a Saturday or Sunday morning as a means of working around normal school hours. In this culture, they don't get as much time off in comparison to the American school system. They go to school until mid-July and get about a month off for

their spring festival in January. The common school day starts from 7:30 AM to 11:00 AM, and then they have approximately a two hour break and return back for school the same day at 1:30 PM until 5:00/5:30 PM.

Education in China is very valuable due to its large population. People in this area are intrinsically motivated and eager to learn. In order to make other jobs available, men are forced to retire around the age of 50 and women

around the age of 45. Besides public school learning opportunities, other education experiences give people the competitive edge necessary to get a good job. Therefore this proprietary school supports the value of education in China and provides another educational opportunity that people in this culture are striving for.



Elaine Razzano pictured with teachers from an English-language school in Baotou
Photograph by Elaine Razzano

Getting Involved

By Mary Wheeler

Like many high school students, I was juggling with the idea of what I wanted to do with my life. I wasn't even sure if I wanted to go to college. I think my problem was that I was bored with school. I was drained from the everyday monotony of going to classes, riding the school bus the 11 miles to and from school, and the endless chatter and gossip. What I really wanted to do was move out of Vermont. I thought California or Seattle would be nice, however, I realized how expensive living conditions were, and quickly changed my plans. From the outside, it looked like I was an intelligent person. However, school was often quite difficult for me. I couldn't factor numbers in algebra, Biology and DNA were concepts I couldn't understand, and it took me 40 minutes longer than the rest of the class to take a test.

During my junior year, I thought I would break up the tediousness of my day by joining a club. My guidance counselor Libby told me that joining a club would be something to put on my resume and make me more marketable to colleges. While I didn't care much about resumes or how marketable I was, I figured joining a

club would be a good way to meet people, and possibly learn something in the process. I first thought about playing a sport, soccer or field hockey. But then again I wasn't much of an athlete, and not having a car meant having to have my parents pick me up everyday after practices, so that was a no go. I then thought about joining student council, because helping the school seemed like a noble idea. However, none of the members really knew what was happening or why they had decided to join in the first place. So when I finally settled on writing for the student newspaper, I didn't think anything of it, let alone think I would study it in college. I found it fun to interview people and come up with catchy headlines, but that was about the extent of my interests.

However, the more involved I got in journalism, the more it started to make sense for me. It wasn't so much about the cool titles and seeing your name in print, it was more about giving a voice to those who might not normally be heard. I can still remember the first article I ever wrote was a preview of the fall play Hamlet. I was so nervous, because I wanted to make sure every-

thing from the questions to the article were perfect. The compliments and even the criticisms I was receiving for my work, from both my advisor and classmates taught me an important lesson. In life, you have to have a thick skin, as a person and as a writer, I learned to value the criticism and realize it was said only for my benefit.

The reason I knew what I wanted study in college was because I got involved in several different activities during high school to see what I was interested in. The activities helped me channel my frustrations with learning in a more creative way and got me through some difficult times. Any kind of leadership position builds confidence in a person. I learned the value of exploring new things, and how if it doesn't work out, there is always something new to try.

Take advantage of all the opportunities your school has to offer. Seek out clubs you may be interested in and see if it's something worth continuing with. You never know, something you might not think of as an interest, could very well become a lifelong hobby or possible career.

Living with the Opposite Sex

By Katie Barrett

So picture this, you are sitting in your room, extension cords, duct tape, and every other object you couldn't have in a dorm room is now cluttering your tiny apartment room. Generally you don't have much living space, and the living space you do have is limited. You now share a living room, kitchen, bathroom and every other room in either an apartment or house, depending how big your wallet is. When all of the sudden your roommate walks in holding up a pair of your dirty underwear you forgot to grab after you got out of the shower when you came home from the gym. It's then you realize you have one more thing to add to the most embarrassing moment's list.

There are always perks to living with friends while in college. You get to see your friends every day, you never really get bored, unless one of your roommates refuses to entertain you, and no matter what they will always be there for you, mainly because they have to. The lease you all signed said so. You get to play your music as loud as you want, when you want, and no RA is going to come and tell you to turn it down, but then again there is your roommate and unless your roommate is trying to sleep, do homework, or are on the phone with their mom. Then most definitely crank that rock and roll shake your booty like no one is watching up! You can finally do all the things you wanted to do. When you mix sexes in living situations which are on non-romantic levels things can get pretty interesting. There are always unsaid rules when living with roommates, many of them outrageous, and others which are plain and simple, and then some are even practical. But no matter how many rules are set, there are always a few people willing to go the extra step to break those rules.

For men, living with women, some of the rules are no pink which seems to be a big one and when they say no pink they mean it. You don't want to see your roommate flip his lid because you decided to put up pink curtains in the living room. Then, there are the no frills, and nothing too girly. You know what I mean, all those stuffed animals you got from previous boyfriends, well you can bet your bottom that they most definitely do not go out on the living room couch.

With women the rules get a little more complicated. Number one rule all women have; putting the toilet seat back down after you use the little boy's room. No girl in their right mind wants to sit down and have their bottom get wet just because someone was too lazy to put the seat back down. Another few rules when living with women are, flush the toilet which is a point in the brownie book if you remember, also don't forget no hair left in the sink, when you it comes the day you decide to shave off all your facial hair.

Then you have the generic rules, no shoes in the apartment, they must be taken off at the door, do the dishes, ask before taking something, and mainly be respectful.

The room that I often stay in is not your average room. It's has your average squared like shape, with a window, and door, but the residents that reside in the room with me, are not figments of my imagination, but friends, family and other students. I often stay on the third floor of a three story building, in an apartment with four rooms, and six roommates. Four boys and two girls, myself being one of those girls makes a pretty interesting living situation.

"I love sharing a bathroom with girls." Brandon said as he walked around the corner, Katie and I had just finished "re-decorating" the bathroom. We had placed a flower shower curtain to cover the creepy clear one that was up before, the counters were organized and the bathroom smelt of herbal essence. "The only thing I ask you girls is not a lot of pink please."

"Not a problem." Katie and I both agreed. There was no need to step on any toes already. The boys had been living in the apartment for a while, and well Katie rented out the last room, I became a "resident" of the apartment. I was the guy on the couch, only with a king sized mattress and a feather blanket. A few weeks after the "pink" incident, the other bathroom became something out of a magazine. As Erik came home with a bag of tan which is sill a manly color shower curtains and matching bath towels and pimped out the bathroom. It was as if the boys who shared the other bathroom were having an unsaid "who's got the prettiest bathroom contest" and we didn't know we had even entered.

As the saying goes "boys will be boys" and when you live with four of them, this statement holds true. Often time's the boys don't realize that some girls are just are not as tough as boys. We like to paint our nails and look pretty occasionally and don't need a huge bruise as an accessory. There have been times, where one of us girls have been hit with an air soft gun in the leg or had fire crackers shoved under a door where they were standing. It's not that we don't like playing rough, but there are times that girls, well girls just want to be girls, and not get beaten up. Girls want to be protected, and not by the ones they are being beaten up. Now you must use the term beaten up lightly. In some cases, girls can be just as bad as the boys when it comes to horsing around but often times, it's always ends in someone getting hurt, something getting broken, or someone just getting mad.

We all come from different back grounds and the ages range from nineteen to twenty-five. We all go to school, work and have a social life of our own, but when we are all together we are a family. But we've all had our run in with breaking the house rules.

Living with friends has its ups and downs. Mostly ups, but living with friends can have its downs. Often time's boys don't realize that some girls are just are not as tough as boys. There have been times, where one of us girls have been hit with an air soft gun in the leg or had fire crackers shoved under a door where they were standing. It's not that we don't like playing rough, but there are times that girls, well girls just want to be girls, and not get beaten up. Girls want to be protected, and not by the ones they are being beaten up. Now you must use the term beaten up lightly. In some cases, girls can be just as bad as the boys when it comes to horsing around but often times, it's always ends in someone getting hurt, something getting broken, or someone just getting mad. But in the end, living with your friends, can often times be the best time of your life.

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Chasing a Dream: Mike Campbell

By Joshua Damaso

Chasing one dream doesn't mean that you have to let go of another. As a freshman at Lyndon State College in 2001, Michael Campbell was starting to live his dream as a Television Studies major. Growing up he had always watched different kinds of television shows, and at an early age he developed a curious mind as to how they were created. Within time, he longed to take part in creating this world that he had always admired so dearly. Throughout high school and early into his college years, that is exactly what he did.

Laconia High School, located in central New Hampshire, is the place where Campbell first attempted to make his dream as a Television Studies major come to fruition. He attended two years worth of multimedia classes at LHS in order to get a kick-start on his assumed future career.

Among his classmates he was always known to be very passionate about working with television, and as a result, many of the video productions he made were sought by friends and family alike. Campbell would avidly take part in anything from amateur film-critic videos, to music videos, to spoofs on *The Blair Witch Project*.

As much as Campbell loved being part of video production, he had an equal love for something that put him directly in front of the eyes of his audience. In 1996, Campbell took part in the LHS-produced AIDS awareness play *The Inner Circle*. Campbell, a high school freshman at the time, alongside friend Jeremy Kerchival, put on a performance that had much of the community buzzing. People exiting the auditorium night after night were completely moved by the abilities of the young, talented actors. Directly in the middle of all the commotion stood a quiet, gifted actor, too shy to take credit for his incredible performance. Laconia High School had a very bright actor, and every person who entered the auditorium when Mike Campbell was gracing its stage knew they would be in for a great performance.

"Mike was very enthusiastic when he started drama at LHS," said longtime co-actor and friend Carl Steckert, a senior at the University of Rhode Island. "As time went on, Mike was always taking on big-

ger and better roles. (He) took on more responsibility and became a leader in the drama club. At the end of his senior year he was a major figurehead and played a big role in the drama department."

"He'd done everything from running the sound and light board to acting," Steckert continued. "He even directed. You could tell that he genuinely loved theater."

After Campbell graduated, he thought he had seen the end of his time on stage. He decided to pursue his other dream of television production after being accepted to Lyndon State College.

An avid reader, during his second year at Lyndon State, Campbell decided that he wanted to do something different with his college experience. Though he loved television production, and had always dreamed to be a part of it, his fond memories of high school pursued him to change his major. Soon, Campbell made the switch to the English department with the hope of one day becoming a high school English teacher.

After getting involved with the English department, Campbell began to miss the time he spent performing and creating theater in high school. Soon, he decided to take become a part of the LSC Twilight Players group. He thought that he would take a couple classes related to theater, and maybe, end up getting to spend a little time learning more about a passion that had never quite left him. After becoming involved with a few productions, Campbell had an idea that would help him spread his passion of theater to any LSC student who wanted to become a part of it. "Lyndon State had a very distinguished theater department until about six or seven years ago. Somehow, it ended up getting off the books, and it dissipated," Campbell said from the LSC auditorium, where he is student directing this spring's Twilight Players production of William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

"Then, John Walker started working at LSC, and there were a few performance and productions classes being held. I figured that with all of the existing classes; why not try to see if we could get a Theater minor started up at LSC?"

"I thought," Campbell continued,

with a keen eye on Director John Walker as he prowled about the stage arranging the set "We don't have to create any classes; they're all there. This could work."

Campbell eventually got in contact with Beth Norris, a Fine & Performing Arts professor at LSC, and the two of them worked together to try to make the Theater minor happen.

"Two years ago, a girl worked to get a Music minor created, and she did it."

John Walker quickly interrupts our conversation from the stage, and looks outward at Campbell.

"Hey, are these pillars equal on both sides?"

"Yes," Campbell replies out loud.

"You bet your ass they better be."

Everyone in the auditorium laughs as Walker continues to move the set pieces around, looking for the perfect spot to place everything, working hastily as his actors wait to take the stage.

Campbell continued, "Anyway, that girl who started the Music minor. I thought, if she can do it, I might as well try."

Eventually, the idea was brought up at a faculty assembly meeting. Through all of his hard work and dedication to spread theater to LSC students, Campbell hoped that the faculty would come together approve the proposed idea.

"They voted for it."

It got passed in February. It's cool," he said, smiling, still staring at Walker as he mumbled words that no one could quite understand. "It's effective in the Fall 2006 semester, and we already have half a dozen kids who definitely want to do it. I got a bunch of letters from students expressing interest in it."

Campbell expects to graduate in December 2006 with a B.A. in Literature and Culture and his minor in Theater. His plans after graduation include spending time with his longtime girlfriend, a graduate student at the University of New Hampshire, and spending as much time as he can enjoying live theater; be it on Broadway in New York or any other number of productions he can catch anywhere else.

When he thinks about the future of the theater program at Lyndon State, he hopes for success.



Mike Campbell
Photograph by Tabitha Fitzgerald

Woman of Many Different Identities

By Jessica Millhiser

Elaine Razzano, Co-Chair of the English Department at Lyndon State College, sat behind her desk eagerly awaiting our conversation. She wears a pink sweater, beige pants and pink shoes; she is also accessorized with a beige scarf and gold earrings. National Public Radio is playing quietly in the background and Elaine admits that she frequently listens to this station.

Elaine began our interview talking first about her international travels after college. In the 1970's she and a few friends went to Europe because "it's a tame area and that's where most people start their travels." After experiencing some of Europe, she decided to go on her own to Ireland because she felt as though she could understand the area and culture better that way if she went independently. As Elaine adjusted the scarf on her neck she began to engage more in the questions I had asked her previous to our conversation. She told me that she had decided that she needed to get away from the Vermont High School scene which she had been apart of for a few years and needed to expand her surroundings. She found a newsletter which contained a lot of information about teaching overseas and began to make the necessary connections. She first traveled to Asia, where, in 1988 and 1989, she taught the English lan-



One of the many place Elaine Razzano has visited. Photograph by Elaine Razzano

guage in China. This was an exciting change in her life; and only this past summer, summer 2005, she and 6 of her former Chinese students took time off and traveled to Tibet.

Gazing around her office I noticed that there appeared to be many different types of artifacts from her travels. She tells me about a piece of artwork that is propped on her wall that was made for her by one of her Chinese travel mates. Its colors consist of white and red and have red tassels hanging from the bottom. In the middle of the piece is the Chinese character "Fu" which means luck. Elaine tells me that the Chinese people are very giving and very friendly and they like to give their guests and friends gifts. Aside from this piece, Elaine has many other posters and pictures on her walls as a sort of show and tell about her trips.

Towards the end of our conversation she mentions that she chooses novels for her classes "that will help people learn and understand cultures that are different from our own." When asked if any of her experiences have changed her philosophy or ideas about teaching, Elaine responded by saying that her "experiences have confirmed and reinforced her idea that people learn differently; and also that it is very difficult to learn something new."

Women In Buddhism

By Corinne Marie

For beginners and the curious, Buddhism may seem exotic and strange. Even though Buddhism in American is flourishing, it none the less seems to be hidden from the mainstream. And why would a woman, for example, leave her mainstream life and enter a meditation center to work, meditate, and study the dharma? Women are becoming Buddhists, and this is happening right here in our local area. Women in Buddhism is a dense topic. Yet, it seems there is a natural progression for women to find the dharma and seek enlightenment just as many have done since the time of the Buddha. Early on, women flocked to hear the Buddha's words about suffering and its cures. Buddha did engage both men and women in his dharma talks, but when his stepmother asked to join and become a nun he said no to her three times. Indian society during the time of Buddha did not encourage women to join. Yet, when Buddha's aunt Pajapati finally became a nun, many women came to her wanting to enter. This must have been such a progression past the cultural expectation of women being the wives and mothers. How women's hearts must have leaped at that chance to do something so different and even radical with their lives.

So is that same appeal here today? Many women have come to Karme Choling in Barnet, Vermont to try a different way of life. The women and men at Karme Choling are there to work, study, and meditate. This is a commitment to what is called "the three Jewels." The "jewels" are the Buddha (the actual person known as the Buddha,) the Dharma (the teachings,) and the sangha (the group of people who meditate together.) Buddhism has its rituals and expectations, but the meditation is really about understanding and get-

ting to know yourself extremely well. This path element is how stereotypes, bias, ignorance, and suffering can be dealt with. "Buddhism is about seeing the reality of things as they are. We are born as women and this is our reality, our ground to work with, our particular situation and energy," comments Ella, the In House Retreats person at Karme Choling. "This path is a personal one," comments Simone, a Practice and Education assistant. So every person has her own path, and in that aspect there is freedom. "In the past, women were not equal to men in regard to Buddhism, but in the here and now, in American, women are not any less important in the world of Shambhala Buddhism," comments Karme Choling's bookkeeper Sophie. So the women at Karme Choling are seeing this experience as a way to learn the teachings of Buddhism. Not unlike the first nuns during Buddha's lifetime, many of the women at Karme Choling are doing what is radical. Radical here, means doing something different with one's mind. Meditation has a strong impact on a person's life, emotions, and spirituality. Serving the three Jewels is the ritual that allows people to develop a meditation practice and use it when they leave Karme Choling. It is a unique experience to come to a center like Karme Choling and work, study, and meditate on a daily basis. There are no nuns, or monks at Karme Choling. This meditation center is filled with people from every walk of life, every age, every faith, every minority, and all are coming to learn to meditate and learn the dharma.

Interestingly, most of the women connected to the Shambhala International lineage are lay persons. Some are nuns, like Pema Chodron, but most women live outside the centers and work, have families, have

businesses, are students, or artists, and are a part of all the mainstream situations one can think of. We are taught that our practice can be done at home, work, or pretty much wherever we are. This does not mean we sit on cushions and do nothing. Many women are socially active and work toward stopping suffering on many levels. From education to direct involvement in women's issues, Buddhist women are there. bell hooks [sic], a Buddhist herself, for example, teaches at a small Catholic College, and Alice Walker is a student of Pema Chodron's, and writes about this in some of her work. One never knows where a Buddhist woman may be, or in what situation in life. Yet, we are here. Ella reminds us, "We lost the balance between the feminine and the masculine, and somehow our society became based on masculine energy. But the task for women is not to fight back, but to empower themselves and cultivate something that was lost." Women in the Shambhala International lineage are encouraged to participate in any capacity they are attracted to. Many women become Acharya's-- a teacher of the dharma, and are involved in every facet of this particular sangha. Women are cultivating what was lost, as Ella comments.

While women in American today have many choices, there is something calling women to serve the three Jewels at Karme Choling. This unique experience has touched many women's lives, and many other women are following in the footprints of the first women Buddhist's of so long ago. We have those women to thank and admire, for without them we may not have the chance to experience the dharma and meditation for ourselves.

The Story of Joshua Adams aka Spaz

By Joshua James Gervais

Many students at LSC don't know the name Joshua Adams, but it would be hard to find a student on campus that doesn't recognize his nickname, Spaz. "I got the name Spaz when I got here on the first or second day," Adams, a senior in the television studies program, said. In the six years since the name, Adams has been a vital member of the LSC community. "I know this place like I know myself," Adam said.

One of Adam's teachers encouraged him to come to LSC for its Television Studies department, thinking that he would be well suited for a career as a scriptwriter. He said he was looking into schools for audio production at the time. During his year at LSC, Adams said he discovered electronic music, and his focus shifted from video to audio.

Since coming to LSC, Adams said he has been focused on music. Adams has what is most likely the longest running radio show on the Impulse. He said that during his first year at LSC, he had a punk show, and then switched to his current format electronic music. "I get people calling all the time 'Hey play AC/DC,'" Adams said. Adams is interested in electronic music and raves, sometimes traveling long distances to go to a show. "I'm working on getting myself a production company," Adams said, adding that he'd be able to

play music for people's parties or events, and get paid for it.

Adams said he was born in Rhode Island, and his family moved to the North East Kingdom when he was 10 or 11. Before they had visited the area during the summer, but they had never been here over the winter. "Most of my life has been spent in the state of Vermont, so I'd call myself a resident," Adams said.

After a visiting home during the summer after his first year at LSC, Adams decided to stay close to LSC during the summer. "I had to do my own thing and get my own place," Adams said.

Adams said that he's looking forward to going to graduate school and possibly looking into independent films. He also said that he was interested in doing something that integrates his love for music and his interest in video.

"I have a real problem with getting stalked," Adams said, because of his friendly demeanor and nonjudgmental attitude, people often find it easy to open up to Adams, even at inconvenient times.



Joshua Adams aka Spaz
Photograph by Joshua Adams

Men's Sex Expectations Exposed

By Tabitha Fitzgerald

In the last issue, the ladies got to tell us their side of the story. We were informed about female expectations, what they felt was expected of them, and how they felt about the opposite sex. Now it's the guys turn.

I had heard what the women had to say, but I wanted to know how they guys felt about the differences between genders and their expectations. I found it was a little harder to get my male counterparts to talk. I really had to find the perfect questions to get them rolling, but once they got going I found out some pretty interesting things.

When asked, the guys I talked to didn't have very many expectations. Andrew Hamblett, a Junior at LSC said he looked for a girl that was athletic and that was part of the same social group that he was in. Brett Bassett, an LSC sophomore, admitted that he did look at a girl's attractiveness but he said he paid more attention to the way she acted and presented herself. Keith Whitcomb felt a little different. "I wasn't real popular, so I was kind of a take what you get kind of guy," Whitcomb said. Though the guys felt they didn't have many expectations they felt the ladies had expectations for themselves. "I found that girls had expectations that they felt they had to meet to impress me," Josh Damaso, an LSC Junior, said.

Most of the guys felt that there wasn't much expected from them either. Hamblett said that he felt he had to be athletic, part of the party scene. Bassett said in high school he felt it was a popularity contest. The hottest girls had to be with the hottest guys. He also said he felt he had to be athletic. But he knew that these expectations would change after high school.

All of the guys felt that in high school all of the girls looked for good looking, athletic guys. The guys felt the gals were looking for superficial things just like the girls had assumed in the previous issue.

I asked the guys where they got these ideas from. They seemed to get their expectations from the same places the gals had gotten their ideas from. Bassett said his beliefs on relationships and sex came from watching his parents and talking to his friends. Hamblett said he imagined things to be more like what he saw on television.

A big area where guys differed from the ladies was in what they expected from sex. While girls had all of these fantasies and expectations about sex, guys kept thought

about other things. "There was a sense I should have been having sex, and I was kind of put off that I wasn't," said Whitcomb. Damaso said, "I would be a liar if I said that I didn't have things in mind but I didn't expect things to look or go a certain way." Bassett agreed with Damaso. Bassett said he didn't really have any expectations.

After the experience the girls had all been disappointed, but most of the guys again had a different opinion. Only one out of the five guys that I talked to found that sex didn't quite measure up. "I remember thinking, and I still sometimes do, that sex is the biggest disappointment," Damaso said. He went on to say that he had spent so much time thinking how great it would be, but it wasn't as great as he thought it would be at first. Hamblett also said that he had spent a lot of time thinking about sex before he had experienced it. After he had, he felt it wasn't as important as he had thought it was. "I wasn't trying to make it the most important moment of my life, I just wanted it done," Bassett said.

All of the girls had planned their first sexual encounter but none of the guys had. In fact some of them had a hard time recalling it. Damaso said that he could remember who it was with and where it was but he didn't really remember the details around the act itself. Bassett was the same way. He said he wasn't even sure where it took place.

The ladies had some worries about sex but the guys seemed to outdo them here. Every guy that I talked to mentioned their worries unprompted. "I was worried she would get pregnant," Damaso said. Josh Gervais said the same thing. Other things that were mentioned were STD's, commitment, and clinginess. Hamblett said he was worried about being compared to other guys. Whitcomb said he felt like he should know what he was doing and he was worried it would show that he didn't.

Relationships are another place where guys and gals differed. While they all said they look for relationships now, most of the guys said they use to try to stay away from them. Hamblett said that in high school he didn't want to have a real relationship with any of the girls he dated. He said he couldn't connect with them. Bassett said he was afraid of commitment, even when he was in a relationship.

Though guys seemed to want to stay away from

commitment and enjoy sex for the sake of sex, they all shared something in common with the ladies. All of the guys said that sex was better when you were in a committed relationship. "I don't want to sound corny but there is a definite different feeling between having sex and making love," Damaso said. Hamblett said that sex is better in a relationship because you are comfortable with each other, willing to try different things, and there is a sense of trust and good communication. This was another idea shared by the female side.

Another thing the guys and gals had in common was what they were taught about sex. "I was taught sex was a bad thing," Bassett said. Damaso shared this opinion. He said he was raised to feel that sex was a bad thing and that he was taught he should wait to marriage.

The gals got a chance in the last issue to share some additional feelings about their views on sex and the other sex. Now the guys get their chance. "I hate girls that wear makeup and the ditzzy blondes that are obsessed with their looks," Hamblett said. "Most girls think that sex means you love them but in high school and even in college it doesn't necessarily mean that," Bassett said. "Guys have to learn not to show exactly how much you like her, otherwise you're vulnerable," said Hamblett when asked how he felt about relationships. This kind of reflects his earlier comments about trying to stay away from commitment.

I found out that even though guys and gals had totally different expectations of each other, sex and relationships both genders thought that sex in a relationship was better than sex and dating. Both genders felt that love was made up of parts and sex was only one of them. So even though some of the stereotypes were true, such as, girls fret over looks, and guys don't like commitment, but these are attitudes that do change. I found that guys and gals are different creatures but they both end up with the same conclusion. While both enjoy sex, no matter what the reason for it is, they both end up wanting the emotional attachment as well. Sex leads to love, or love leads to sex. No matter which may be true for you it is true that sex is important to both the male and female races.

To Be My Father's Daughter

By Nicole Miner

Being one of seven children is not easy. It is hard to stand out and be recognized. Somehow, I have managed to set myself apart and be different from all of my siblings, and make a name for myself within my family. It took a lot of hard work and dedication, but I have bloomed into a unique young woman that is exceptional in almost every way.

I owe much of my success to my father. I have heard my entire life that I am exactly like my father. We have the same sense of humor, the same thirst for life and adventure, and we both are very passionate about our convictions. However greatly our convictions differ, my father and I still share a special bond that is unique.

During my sophomore year of college I studied abroad in England. My first day there I called my dad crying, wanting to come home. I had been in England a grand total of five hours, and I was begging to go home. My dad said that he would go buy me a ticket if I really wanted to return, but he thought I should try it out for a couple of days. My step mother got upset with him, she thought he should not have offered an opportunity to come home, but he knew that as long as I had the option, I would stick it out in England. I asked my dad why it was that I went to England in the first place. I will never forget his answer. He said, "Nicole, you have always been the girl who made her own path, who went against the norm if that is where her heart lead her."

I have worked hard to pave my own path, but the way was made easier by the lessons my father taught

me. My father taught me to respect myself, or no one else would. This lesson came with a large price tag on it. When I was in elementary school I was always the one getting in trouble for things my "friends" did. I let people walk all over me and it destroyed my self-esteem. One day my friends stole peppermint schnapps from the store in my home town. I did not know that they had done this until we got and my friend's mother found it in my backpack. She immediately called my mother who told me that my father would deal with me when he got home. For the next three hours I sat in a chair and didn't move. I was not told to sit there, I was just too overwhelmed by what had happened to do anything else. I was eleven years old, I did not anything about alcohol except that I was not old enough to have any. I also knew that I was responsible for making my dad dive up drinking when I was five. What would he think of me now? I fought with myself over whether or not to tattle on my friends. I knew that they were jerks, but they were the only friends I had. This was not the first time they had gotten me in trouble either.

When my dad's car pulled into the driveway I had made my decision. My mother told him what had happened, and that I had been sitting in the same chair or three hours without moving. My dad walked over to me, I looked up at him and just started to cry. He handed me a tissue and said, "You didn't take it, did you?" I was so relieved I that I started to cry tears of happiness that my dad knew what

had happened and I did not even have to tattle. My dad gave me a long lecture on choosing friends and being true to myself. He said that he knew I was a good kid and the one he worried about the least. He also said I was forbidden from ever hanging out with those "friends" again. I did not mind that at all. I was glad to have an excuse to be rid of them without being rude. After that I started to respect myself more and became more involved in school functions and activities. I don't know if my dad knows how much he helped me that day, but I will be forever thankful.

Now that I am a senior in college I have been thinking about what I am going to do with my life, where I am going to go, what kind of job I want. It is very stressful to be a senior, and some days it is too much for me to handle. On these days I call my dad. I usually ask him to run away with me. He pretends to fight the idea, saying he has a wife and seven children. I tell him that I don't care, that he should run away with me and we can drink cocktails on the beach and play volleyball all day long. This argument always convinces him and we decided where we want to go. Usually someplace really exotic, Jamaica or the Virgin Islands. Then he tells me to go online and buy the plane tickets and he will go home and pack his bags and meet me at the airport. This game that we play always makes me feel better. I know that I can handle anything as long and my dad is on my side.

Fun Page

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The words go horizontal, vertical, backwards, forwards and diagonally. Good Luck

Position Open

Editor

Applications are now being accepted

Responsibilities The Editor is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the newspaper. The Editor manages the staff and makes general assignments. The Editor is responsible for all budgetary decisions and all editorial decisions. The Editor is responsible for the editorial page make up and design, and the over-all design of the paper. Management actions falling within the Editor's area of responsibility include, but are not limited to representation of the newspaper to the public, oversight of day to day operations.

- Qualifications** Preference will be given to those candidates who best exhibit the following criteria
- 1.) Full time LSC student.
 - 2.) GPA 2.0 or better
 - 3.) Previous Critic experience
 - 4.) Evidence of superior writing ability
 - 5.) Evidence of the ability to edit copy
 - 6.) Evidence of personnel management ability
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How to Apply:
Please submit a letter of application that outlines your qualifications and interest, clips of your work and any other pertinent materials to:
Alan Boye
Vail 357
Deadline: 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 5.

Horoscopes

By Madame Divine


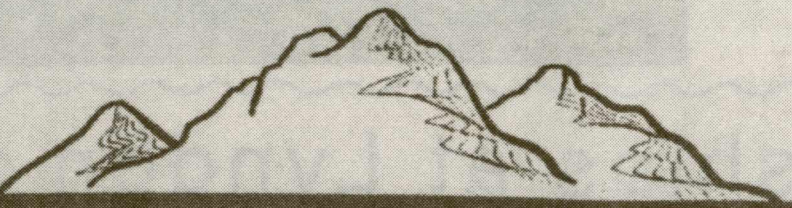
- Aries-** March 21-April 19: Stay positive. The warmer weather and joys of summer are quickly approaching, so you will have something to look forward to. Spend some time at the beach, or go swimming with one of your friends. Enjoy the weather while it lasts.
- Taurus-** April 20-May 20: Your stubborn ways are going to get in the way for you this month. Try to see things from other people's perspectives and try to compromise. People will respect you for your ability to see both sides of the situation.
- Gemini-** May 21-June 21: Keep your personal life separate from your professional life. It's important for your colleagues to have respect for you, so it may be best for you to keep certain parts of your life to yourself.
- Cancer-** June 22-July 22: Laugh out loud. Laughing and smiling can be very good for your health, and more people will want to be around you. So smile and relax.
- Leo-** July 23-August 22: Balance your time. You can only do so much so many people, it's important that you remain true to yourself. Don't take on more than you can handle, because in the end you will only be hurting yourself.
- Virgo-** August 23-September 22: While money is tight this month, spend a little on yourself. It's important to splurge every once in awhile, just as long as it doesn't become a weekly habit.
- Libra-** September 23-October 22: Someone special you didn't expect will come into your life. Get to know this individual before taking any drastic steps. Building lasting friendships are key to a good relationship.
- Scorpio-** October 23-November 21: Experience something new. It's always refreshing to try something you normally wouldn't. And if it doesn't turn out in your favor, there's always something else you can try.
- Sagittarius-** November 22- December 21: Your aggressive mannerisms are catching up with you. It's important to remain calm during stressful moments and taking time away from others will help.
- Capricorn-** December 22-January 19: Slow down. Everything you do is happening at a million miles an hour. You need to learn that at the end of the day, whatever you were suppose to do, will just have to wait til tomorrow.
- Aquarius-** January 20-February 18: Your unique personality will serve you well this month. Channel your creative talents by writing a song, learning to play an instrument, painting a portrait.
- Pisces-** February 19- March 20: Talk to someone about your struggles. People will listen, and you will feel better getting it off your chest. Try telling someone you trust exactly what's going on with your life.

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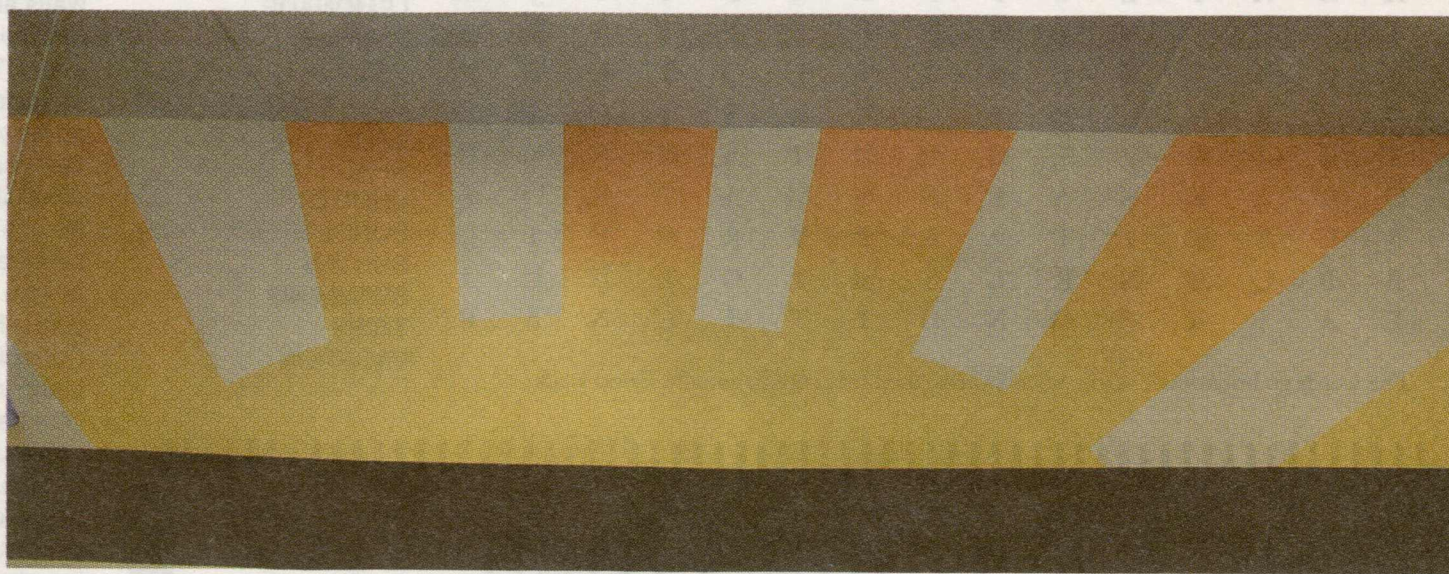
Renovations Happening Everywhere at Lyndon State

By Katie Barrett

As the year slowly reaches its end, it has become time for students to figure out which books can be sold back to the book store and which cannot. During the past two weeks, the Environmental Graphics Design class has been busily working away on the re-design of the front and back wall of the bookstore.

The Environmental Graphic Design class was asked to come up with ideas that could be implemented onto the front and back walls. These ideas were then presented to Steve Rheume, the book store manger. Four students designs were chosen; Thorin Markison, Karen Perkins, Erik Kirk and Rebecca Bushway. Each of the four students presented their design to the administration, with Bushway's design as being the final one chosen.

The class was asked to sign up in groups of four, each taking a three hour shift at painting the bookstore. "It went up a lot smoother than I expected, and is turning out better than I expected too. I'm glad we chose this design because it's working well with the space we have and isn't killing us with stress at the same time," junior, Zach Durlin, said. The front of the bookstore wall was painted first, as students would be bringing back their books, and the area was a desired area with a limited amount of space for both the students and the bookstore employees.

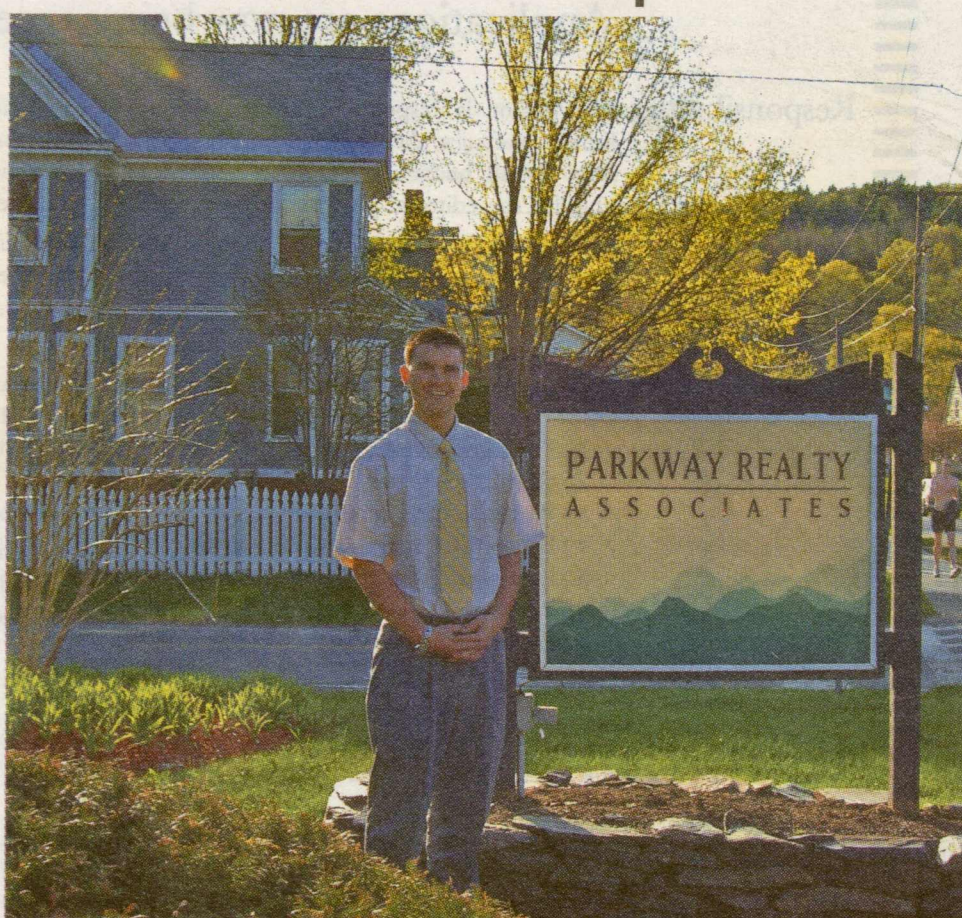


The back of the book store was started without completion of the front wall; however the work was put up very quickly. "Seeing a Project through from the design stage, all the way to installation is a great challenge. I'm glad to see LSC incorporate more Student Artwork into their campus," senior, Mike Totten, said.

The work in the bookstore should be completed by the end of finals week, with hopefully little to not interference to the book store staff. Make sure to check out the newly painted book store walls.

LSC Student Finishes Internship

Chris Kellogg has just completed his internship at Parkway Realty Associates. Chris has always been interested in real estate and when he was approached by a professor at the college he jumped at the chance. Chris has always wanted to participate in real estate. The internship program at Lyndon State College gave him the ability to learn outside of the classroom and become familiar with the local real estate market. Now that he has completed the internship and passed his real estate exam successfully, he now has obtained his real estate license. He will be a full time salesperson at Parkway Realty Associates in St. Johnsbury Vermont.



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Interesting Internships at Lyndon State

By Keith Whitcomb Jr.

It's difficult to decide which internships offered through LSC are the most interesting. Linda Wacholder, Director of Career Services, said. Every internship provides many opportunities to be interesting.

The Student Conservation Association's job magazine "Get Real" lists a great deal of internships all over the country. Most involve the opportunity to go and live in a scenic place, Wacholder said. "It cuts across every major," Wacholder said. One of the internships the SCA offers involves students dressing up in historical costumes and populating a re-creation of a historical town. They role play being people from the past for the benefit of tourists, Wacholder said.

There is also the Behind the Wheel Program. Students must apply for it in teams (the team members do not have to be from the same school). If accepted, the team comes up with a list of five public figures they would like to interview. Once the list is approved, the team gets

in an RV for five weeks in the summer and drives across the country to interview the people on their list. The entire thing is filmed documentary style as the team interviews their subjects on how they came to get the careers they have and what it takes to succeed, Wacholder said. According to the Behind the Wheel Program's application guidelines applicants must be fulltime undergraduate students, they must be at least 18 years of age, sign a waiver, be available for five weeks out of the summer, be willing to share their experiences on camera and not have criminal record among other requirements. Technically the Behind the Wheel Program is not an internship. "I would like to see teams of people apply and then we could support it as an internship," Wacholder said.

Students can also intern for the David Letterman show. A few years ago an LSC student got that internship. Much of what they did was gofer work, but the payoff came with being in the environment and the

opportunity to make connections with people in the television industry, Wacholder said. It pays to apply early for this particular internship, Wacholder said.

Amanda Wheeler, a Television Broadcast News major, enjoyed her internship with Fox Carolina, she said in an email. "I figured I'd be sitting around not doing much, but instead I was out everyday with reporters or working with producers in house," Wheeler said in her email.

Nick Rowe, a Sports Management major, is currently doing well with his internship at the St. Johnsbury Recreation Department, according to his email. Rowe helps keep the Recreation Department running smoothly. "Like I said I feel that I have gained a very good amount of knowledge from my hours spent working as well as from Joe giving me the necessary criticisms that will help me."

VERMONT STATE COLLEGES



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